The Middlebury Campus

www.middleburycampus.com

VOL. 102 NO. 21 | THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2004 | SINCE 1905

AS A DECISION NEARS...

Executive Vice President and Provost Ron Liebowitz is the only known candidate for Middlebury's presidency. Photo/Courtesy

Faculty members decry fault lines in presidential search process

THIS PIECE WAS REPORTED BY CAROLINE STAUFFER, THOMAS DRESCHER, ANDREA GISSING, CHESLEY THURBER, DEVIN ZATORSKI AND CLAIRE BOURNE. IT WAS WRITTEN BY MS. STAUFFER.

Over 20 senior members of the faculty submitted a letter to the Presidential Search Committee in mid-March recommending that President John McCardell's successor be chosen from outside the College, according to a member of the administration.

The letter indicates that the faculty is not remaining silent as the search process enters its final stage and as speculation intensifies about who will succeed McCardell when he steps aside on July 1. The Committee anticipates submitting its recommendation to the Board of Trustees by the month's end. Middlebury College Executive Vice President and Provost Ron Liebowitz is the only known candidate for the office.

In interviews with *The Middlebury Campus* this week, faculty and administrative sources expressed concern about the search process. Their reservations centered on the time frame and transparency of the search, the public knowledge of only one candidate, the level of faculty input and the conflict of interest surrounding junior faculty members' ability to comment on the process.

A Matter of Time

The Presidential Search link on the Middlebury College homepage says the committee met on March 29 to "establish a timetable and due diligence requirements for the last phase of the search." Trustee and Chair of the Presidential Search Committee Rick Fritz '68 said this week that the committee was "getting close to a decision."

"We're at work to fill our charge of having a President in place by the time McCardell leaves at the end of June," said Professor of History Jim Ralph, one of four faculty members on the Search Committee.

The process officially began in November 2003 when consulting firm A.T. Kearney, which also headed provost and presidential searches at Bates, Bowdoin, Colby, Colgate and Dartmouth, was hired. "It was a process that started before the McCardell announcement," said Fritz. He declined to elaborate.

Fritz also said the College saw 200 to 300 "really reasonable prospects," 20 percent of which "had high potential." The candidates were narrowed in five iterations. Fritz also claimed that the search process did not exclude a number of inside candidates.

Some faculty members, however, expressed concern about the search's time frame.

"When it was announced that there was going to be a presidential search, people were shocked that the timetable was so short," a senior member of the faculty told *The Campus*. "The time table doesn't inspire confidence. It raises questions."

A member of the administration agreed. "The timetable was, I thought, suspicious. The secrecy is suspicious," the source said.

A "Setup"?

"The obvious question was if there was already a decision made," said a senior member of the faculty. "Even though the search was legitimate on some level, it looked suspicious."

Suspicion was fed in part by public

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Student robbed at knifepoint

By Devin B. Zatorski
Editor-in-Chief

A student was reportedly accosted from behind by a man brandishing a knife in the lower level restroom of Ross Dining Hall on Friday night. The suspect demanded cash from the student's wallet and then fled with nearly $300, according to an alert issued by the Department of Public Safety early Saturday morning.

The student had displayed a large sum of cash at Ross Dining Hall and "attracted the wrong kind of attention," said Public Safety Officer Kathleen Keeler, who responded to the crime scene following the 6:30 p.m. incident. She later conducted an interview with the student, who had phoned Public Safety to report that he had been robbed. "He was embarrassed to say he had been waving the money around in the dining hall [prior to the incident]," she said.

The victim said the assaulter approached him from behind while he was using a urinal, Keeler told *The Middlebury Campus*. The blade of the knife was reportedly placed against his neck while the suspect demanded cash, she said. The Department of Public Safety declined to release the name of the alleged victim, but sources tell *The Campus* that he is a first-year student. Attempts to contact him to verify his identity were unsuccessful Tuesday night.

The suspect is described as a man between 5'10" and 5'11" with olive skin who was wearing a blue sweater or sweatshirt. The victim said he was unable to see the culprit's face to determine an estimated age or defining facial characteristics, Kee-

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Nixon named 'Angel'

By Amanda Goodwin
Staff Writer

Charzetta Nixon '06 was named this year's Angels Award recipient at last Wednesday's Four Angels Awards ceremony, an annual celebration of the lives and legacies of four Middlebury students from the Class of 2003, Maika Prewitt, Iniko "Niko" Johnson, Tiffany "Tiff" Holmes and Anisa "Nisi" Gamble, who were killed in a car accident in April 2000.

The Four Angels tradition, initiated by an outpouring of support from students, faculty and staff, annually recognizes sophomore women of color who demonstrate exceptional academic success and leadership during their first year at Middlebury.

According to Associate Provost for Institutional Diversity Roman Graf, this year's three nominees — Nixon, Sully Diaz '06 and Olatokunbo Augustus '06 — most prominently follow in the footsteps of the Four Angels. Nixon, co-president of Women of Color (WOC) and a member of RIDDIM, was described as a talented and caring individual with a passion for dance and a contagious smile.

Cook Commons CRA Adam Cohen '03, who nominated Diaz, described her as a warm, enthusiastic psychology major who brings her talents and leadership to many clubs, including the Alianza Latinoamericana y Caribeña (ALC), African American Alliance (AAA) and Distinguished Men of Color (DMC).

Finally, Augustus, a Chinese major and a presence on campus as the leader of a variety of organizations including the Dining Committee, was praised by presenter and former nominee Toni Spence '04 for her grace and self-assuredness.

Prior to the presentation of the award, Nixon addressed the audience, thanking them for supporting the Angels Award tradition, and commenting on the determination and accomplishments of young women of color. In particular, Nixon thanked the mother of Tiffany Holmes, who was present at the ceremony.

"I learned about the Four Angels my first year here at Middlebury College. Hearing about their strength, leadership and dynamic personalities made me respect these strong women. The Four Angels should be remembered and learned about more because they have left their mark and touched so many lives. I am very thankful and appreciative to

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Albert Bitici

Charzetta Nixon '06 (right), winner of the 2004 Four Angels Award, talks with the mother of Tiffany Holmes and Jan'l Hastings-Robinson '04 following the ceremony.

MIDDBRIEFS

BY DANIEL L. J. PHILLIPS, THOMAS C. DRESCHER AND CAROLINE S. STAUFFER

Mistrial declared in Tyco trustee case

Justice Michael Orbus of the New York State Supreme Court in Manhattan declared a mistrial last Friday in the corporate theft trial of L. Dennis Kozlowski (above), former College Trustee and chief executive of Tyco International. The judge's ruling, in response to the third request by defense lawyers for a mistrial in several days, came on the 12th day of jury deliberations in the six-month-long trial. Kozlowski and his former chief financial officer, Mark Swartz, faced 32 charges of larceny and securities fraud for allegedly stealing $600 million from Tyco.

Orbus cited outside pressure on a juror to justify his decision after learning that Juror No. 4 had received a "highly critical" letter from an anonymous source about her perceived intention to hold out for acquittal. The 79-year-old juror under public scrutiny, Ruth Jordan, refused to deliberate after the jury received the case because she felt she was "being persecuted," reported *The New York Times* last Friday.

The Manhattan district attorney said that he would seek a retrial against Kozlowski and Swartz, and a statement from Tyco pledged that "once the criminal cases are resolved, we will diligently pursue our own civil actions against Messrs. Kozlowski and Swartz," according to *The Times*. Prior to the trial, Kozlowski had already stepped down from the Board of Trustees in Sept. 2002, just two days before his financial involvement with the College was highlighted in the Business section of *The New York Times*.

Simmons honored with scholarship

Dena N. Simmons '05 was recently named one of 77 Truman Scholars nationwide. Recipients were selected based on leadership, intellectual ability and the likelihood that they will "make a difference." They receive a total of $26,000 toward senior year tuition and graduate studies and a slew of other benefits, including priority admission to premier graduate institutions.

Simmons, 20, is currently studying in Chile, and plans to attend the Columbia University Teachers College for her graduate work. The New York City native hopes to pursue an interest in addressing the social problems, especially teen pregnancy, that she witnessed firsthand growing up in the Bronx.

Simmons said she would like to "improve [New York City's] education system and provide all students with quality education."

This year's Truman Scholars were selected from a pool of 609 candidates nominated by 300 colleges and universities. The selection process included individual interviews, and approximately one candidate was chosen from each state.

SGA senators retrieve dining hall dishes

The Student Government Association (SGA), Middining and Ross Commons Residential Life Staff are collaborating on an initiative known as Dish Recovery System (DRS) — to return dining ware back to the dining halls.

SGA Director of Environmental Affairs Ian Ausprey '04 made DRS a reality by organizing a network of bins in buildings across campus to address the loss of dishware from the dining halls.

SGA senators went door-to-door collecting dishes and explaining the initiative to their constituents Sunday night.

The project was inspired by the Middlebury Initiative for Sustainable Development and funded by the SGA and Atwater, Brainard, Cook and Wonnacott Commons.

Angels' legacy celebrated

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be seen in the light of such four amazing women," said Nixon.

"The loss of the Four Angels in April 2000 was the defining element of my freshman year. It has taken me all four years to accept that the good they did while they were with us still resonates in many aspects of the campus," said Jan'l Hastings-Robinson '04, PALANA president and Four Angels Award presenter.

In addition to their leadership skills, the Four Angels are remembered for their personal characteristics and generosity towards others. Hastings-Robinson recounted her experiences with each of the girls: Prewitt's "luminescent smile" and uplifting favorite phrase, "Hey, beautiful!", Johnson's contagious laughter that "carried on long after she was gone," Holmes' radiant smile, friendly demeanor and insistence on receiving hugs from everyone she passed and Gamble's observant nature and constant readiness to listen and lend a helping hand.

Equally involved in the proceedings were faculty and staff, many of whom noted that they were visibly touched by the girls' accomplishments during their brief time at Middlebury.

Administrative Assistant JoAnn Brewer shared anecdotes about the girls and recited a poem she wrote in the weeks following the accident, entitled, "Children, Our Most Precious Gift in Life."

Mary Ellen Bertolini, assistant director of the Writing Program, followed with two personal poems, one of which depicted the piles of white ribbons, reminiscent of angels' wings, created after the tragedy. "Bear witness: they were loved," she proclaimed.

The evening continued with a dinner in honor of the nominees and the Four Angels Gospel Concert, featuring Janice Harrison-Aikens, Alexander Twilight Artist-in-Residence François Clemmons, Crystal Belle '04, Spence and Cherine Anderson '04.

Hastings-Robinson remarked on the significance of the Four Angels tradition: "I believe the Four Angels Award is an important award because each year we gather to reminisce on their wonderful achievements, as well as giving the nominees and the recipient of the award an incentive to live their lives as the angels did, thereby helping the campus to grow, change and foster social and cultural exchange within the Middlebury community."

Belle, who nominated Nixon for the award, added, "When I won the Angels Award two years ago, it was a huge honor for me to win an award in memory of such beautiful, talented, dynamic women. It is definitely a highlight of my college career. I felt special and I *know* the tradition will definitely continue as every year we continue to have more outstanding women of color who bring life to this campus."

Nixon concluded, "This award demonstrates that with a warm spirit, community service, strong will and compassion you can change the life of another person."

Albert Bitici

Sophomore nominees Tixo Augustus, Sully Diaz and Charzetta Nixon follow in the footsteps of the Angels' tradition.

Unlawful trespass reported

By Daniel Phillips
NEWS EDITOR

Just after 12 p.m. last Saturday, the Department of Public Safety notified the Middlebury Police Department that former College student Bradford Buchar, 23, had allegedly dialed a student's room extension and knocked on a dormitory door. Public Safety subsequently sent out a student-wide e-mail on Monday night explaining that Buchar, who is not allowed to be on campus, may have been seen on College property Saturday at noon.

After listing Buchar's height, weight, hair and eye color and vehicle descriptions, the message urged students with information regarding his trespass to contact Public Safety or the Middlebury Police Department.

According to the Town Police Dispatch Log printed Sunday, the current College student whom Buchar allegedly visited had already filed a no trespass notice against him prior to Saturday's incident, and had inquired in the past about obtaining a restraining order. The Dispatch Log notes that Police Officers Newton and Gosselin were unable to locate the suspect on campus after responding to the trespass report, and that the student was not even sure whether the person who called and visited was Buchar.

The trespass notice sent on Monday was met with widespread concern among the student body, which was already on heightened alert following the announcement early Saturday morning of a reported knifepoint mugging of a student in the lower-level men's restroom of Ross Dining Hall. The descriptions of the two suspects in each incident detailed in campus-wide e-mails were strikingly similar, and Public Safety received at least six to seven e-mails from students expressing concern over whether the two occurrences were related in any way, according to Director of Public Safety Lisa Boudah.

Our concern is that if [Buchar] has been seen here, that's a problem.

—Director of Public Safety Lisa Boudah

"We have no reason to believe they were connected," said Boudah, who sent out an update to students on Tuesday afternoon in response to the inquiries. "I realized everybody needed more information," she said. The message revealed that Buchar is 23 years old, which was left out of the original notice. "We have no reason to suspect that Brad Buchar is connected in any way with the incident Friday night in Ross Dining. We do not have any immediate or specific threat," the update read.

In an interview with *The Middlebury Campus* Tuesday afternoon, Boudah commented, "The College is not at liberty to provide any further information.... Our concern is that if [Buchar] has been seen here, that's a problem."

The Office of the Dean of Student Affairs declined to confirm Buchar's status as a Middlebury student of the Class of 2003, as last year's Directory states. The office also declined to elaborate upon the circumstances that precipitated the no trespass notice against him.

Vlad Lodoaba

Students peruse floor plans during small block draw Monday night in Kenyon Arena while Dean David Edleson looks on.

Room Draw drama subsides

Dueling drawers battle for small blocks across campus

By Taylor Johnston
Staff Writer

The new room draw system faced its trial-by-fire Monday with the onset of Small Block Draw. Throughout the night, the process was filled with both success and draw drama for students present, and was followed by Continuing Commons Draw for rising seniors and juniors and Open Draw for rising seniors on Tuesday evening.

Introduced this year after months of committee work, the new room draw system aims to build the commons community by rewarding commons loyalty, honor seniority, and give rising sophomores a chance to stay in their commons if they wish to do so. Accordingly, blocks were awarded through a point system based on both seniority and Commons loyalty.

"Being the first year we've done it this way, there were some problems, but overall it went pretty well," said Residential System Coordinator Kelly Bevere. "Obviously, not everyone got what they wanted. We did post the block order in the hall [of Kenyon] so they knew what to expect."

Though it seems the committee's goals have been actualized to an extent, many students, especially rising juniors, feel the reforms left them out. "Rising sophomores last year that got kicked out [of their commons] were the reason for the change, and now they're screwed over again for leaving the commons," claimed Derek Walker '06.

Floyd Branch '06, another rising Junior who remembers last year's Commons grievances, agreed with Walker.

"The new system is just too complicated. The points don't mean anything. All the people who moved out of the commons last year got screwed," he said. Branch returned Tuesday night for Junior Continuing Commons Draw after waiting two and a half hours on Monday trying to get a block suite in Ross.

While the Room Draw system is not intended to be malicious, it sure seems like it sometimes.

— Derek Walker '06

Alli Liati '06 expressed similar frustration over her loss in the battle for the coveted Atwater suites. "It made me mad that a group of sophomore girls got a block before three juniors and one sophomore — my group," she said. "Besides us, all the people living in Homestead — where we will live now — are rising sophomores. How does that happen? Room draw was weird this year."

Despite the frustrations of many rising uniors, a sizable amount of students walked away with unforeseen satisfaction. "Every year some lucky winner wins when they don't expect it," explained Cook Commons Dean David Edleson, pink wand in hand — complete with "magic" sound effects — at the outset of Small Block Draw.

As Edleson predicted, several groups of students emerged from the fray happily surprised. "I'm really excited," said Emily McNamara '07, who scored a suite in Ross. "I didn't think we had a good chance because our block only had one upperclassman and also had people from other commons."

Bevere expressed her satisfaction with the number of students like McNamara who seemed to walk away happy. After Monday's block draw, she felt optimistic about the availability of sophomore housing in coveted commons. "I know there were a certain number of seniors able to draw for seniors only. With all of the Atwater and Ross [blocks] filled, it should [have opened] things up for sophomores," she explained.

Though Bevere felt pleased with the number of students accommodated, she did mention a few problems with the draw. "It went a half hour longer than expected, but no longer than any other room draw. The time was just a product of the fact that there were so many block applications . . . There was some confusion over groups with mixed juniors and seniors. The applications got [in the wrong] order. I think some juniors left disappointed," she said.

Derek Walker '06, juggling outside Kenyon to keep himself and the other dueling drawers amused until Junior Continuing Commons Draw started, summed up his opinion of the system's problems in one sentence. "While the room draw system is not intended to be malicious, it sure seems like it sometimes."

Gillian Wood '04, however, was willing to cut the system some slack. "I don't know of any system that would be better," she said. "The process is just too complicated."

Council revisits citation reform

By Thomas Drescher
News Editor

Director of Public Safety Lisa Boudah announced the mixed results of a trial period for an alcohol citation policy revision regarding open container violations at this week's Community Council meeting. Council members acknowledged the ineffectiveness of the revision, which called for Public Safety officers to issue verbal warnings rather than citations to 21-plus students in violation of the College's open container policy, but agreed that the current policy is still too harsh. Deliberation will continue next week at Old Chapel.

The Community Council met with Boudah in January to discuss possible citation reform. According to SGA Press Secretary and Council member Andrew Carnabuci '06, the Council wanted to address the fact that identical disciplinary procedures were being used for two different offenses — underage drinking and of-age drinkers in public possession of open containers.

Carnabuci noted that citations are more appropriate for underage drinking and perhaps less so for possession of an open container by a legal drinker, especially since they are cumulative. "Many first-years and sophomores get three citations, and then clean up their acts and become responsible drinkers. They might then turn 21, and happen to forget they were holding a beer while walking to a room across the hall. This would give them four citations and a possible judicial hearing," he explained. "This type of citation does not speak to an alcohol problem in the student per se, but rather to a sort of thoughtless violation of an open container statute."

During the eight-week trial period proposed by the Community Council, Public Safety did not issue citations to legal drinkers for open containers. After the trail period, the results were mixed. "The number of warnings

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OVERSEAS BRIEFING

BY SUZANNE R. MOZES

FERRARA, ITALY — While out for an evening at *aperativo* hour, the Italian equivalent of Happy Hour, my friend's bike was stolen. Depriving her of the chief mode of transportation in our tiny city, this heinous crime is really the most serious felony committed in Ferrara, an otherwise secure medieval city protected by a fortress wall hugging its perimeter. Citizens leave their doors unlocked and ajar, children play unattended in the piazzas and women can walk home late at night without concern for wayward men — much like women at Middlebury.

Several days later, because it *is* such a small city, this friend witnessed an Italian man riding her bicycle through the center of town. Instead of letting him cycle away, she hailed him down in the street and physically reclaimed her bike.

Her assertive behavior made me realize how much she has "come into her own" since arriving in Italy. Had this happened within the first few weeks of her time abroad, I guarantee that her generous nature and passive disposition would have allowed him to pedal past her.

When I first arrived in Ferrara, the group of Midd-kids that had been studying here for the fall were still here finishing up exams. I had taken Italian class with most of them since my freshman year, and while they were not close friends before my arrival, the copious number of hours that we all spent together in class had allowed us to have a basic understanding of each other.

After hanging out with this crew for an evening, I intuitively understood that the guys had become men and the girls had developed into women. I thought that their five months in Ferrara had given them all time to mature in the real word, outside of Middlebury's reach and their parents' realm. In these past two months, I, like my friend in recouping her bicycle, have discovered a self-reliance in my independence abroad.

However, after taking a long bike ride a few days ago outside of our city walls, I realized that Ferrara is not really the "real world." Lying beyond my beautiful city walls lay muddy fields, broken bottles and crumbling buildings. I am still living within an aesthetic bubble of beauty, and with this insight, there comes a bitter irony — my independence here is completely dependent on my parents' funding of my education. And as I began to analyze the real world that I love living in so much, my playground here in Italy has just expanded into a city, instead of the Middlebury campus, still within the confines of a brick boundary.

However, this is the way it's supposed to work. We are eased off of training wheels and onto a big-kid bike, we are allowed to eventually walk outside of the fenced-in playground, we are eased into the real world so that we are prepared for the bully who steals our bike. Our parents are doing what they are supposed to be doing, and doing it well. And I am not going to lie — I still take comfort in those medieval walls protecting me.

Faculty members lay out vision for new president

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knowledge of only one candidate, Liebowitz. Shortly after announcing his resignation, McCardell informed the College community on Nov. 24 that Liebowitz had been granted leave to ensure that his responsibilities as provost did not interfere with the search process. Liebowitz joined the Middlebury faculty in 1984 as an assistant professor of geography. He later served as dean of faculty and was acting president during McCardell's 2001-2002 spring semester leave.

"If Mr. Liebowitz emerges as the winner, many people will think that the search process was not conducted in a fair manner — that it was a setup. He would have to confront that," a member of the administration said, characterizing this sentiment to be "fairly widespread."

"The worst fears of the faculty are that this was all planned and that Ron has been offered a number of positions elsewhere and he's turned them all down. The questions on the minds of the faculty are: Has a deal been made? Has he been promised the presidency?" the source continued.

Transparency vs. Confidentiality

The transparency of the search process has also come under scrutiny as decision time nears. "Regardless of who would be chosen for this position, it is important that the entire College community understand the nature of the competition among the top candidates," said Professor of Sociology and Anthropology Ellen Oxfeld. "Certainly, there must be many strong applicants for this job, and I think the campus community is entitled to see who the top ones are."

No outside candidates have visited the College to date. Similarly, no candidates have met with or will meet with community members beyond the search committee before the president is named, Fritz said.

"Our understanding is that candidates are not ever going to be on campus to meet with faculty or anyone," a senior member of the faculty said. "What we understand is a decision will be made and will be announced from on high. A lot of us find that disturbing."

"Apparently, this is the way it is done," the source said. "Apparently the presidential search is in a class by itself. This may be the case, but it doesn't inspire confidence."

Fritz, however, argued that a search process that was not confidential "would not have attracted candidates of as high a caliber."

Other faculty members agree with the Committee that the presidential search process is, by nature, one of confidentiality at all institutions.

In response to whether the search had been conducted in a fair manner, Dean of Advising and Assistant Professor of American Literature Karl Lindholm responded, "Fair? In terms of what? What's the convention? Do students usually interview presidential candidates? I suspect not. Presidential candidates are not much interested in exposure. Faculty members have had many opportunities to present their views to their representatives on the Search Committee."

High Stakes

The composition of the Search Committee — specifically that three of the four faculty members are also members of the Promotions Committee that oversees the tenure process — has made some junior faculty members hesitant to provide input.

"The problems for junior faculty are heightened by the way the search is being conducted. Speaking out against Liebowitz at this point could be potentially dangerous if he becomes president," said a junior faculty member.

The faculty has expressed on numerous occasions that the next president be someone for whom Middlebury is first and foremost an educational institution. This is code for not Ron.

— Senior faculty member

"We understand the concern of why junior faculty members did not want to speak up," said Ralph, who is the only faculty member on the Presidential Search Committee not also on the Promotions Committee.

To address these concerns, Ralph led a meeting for junior faculty members in mid-January.

"We've been attentive to our colleagues and we've been listening to their individual voices," Ralph said. "We've conveyed their opinions without attribution to the Search Committee."

Appointing members of the Promotions Committee to a presidential search committees is "a long-standing tradition at Middlebury," said Committee member Larry Yarbrough, the Pardon Tiblinghast Professor of Religion. "We are aware that some members of the faculty have been reluctant to express their views. That said, however, we received many comments from members of the faculty," he continued.

He also expressed confidence that their service on the Presidential Search Committee would not prejudice their deliberations as members of the Promotions Committee.

The junior faculty member, however, remains skeptical. "The search would have been fairer if Search Committee members had released statements summarizing what they were telling the Committee. No one is sure what opinions are actually being conveyed to the Search Committee," the source said.

Looking Outside the Bubble

The letter submitted by more than 20 senior faculty to the Board of Trustees recommending that the next president be chosen from outside the College underscores a theme of the search process — the insider versus the outsider.

"Being an inside candidate at any level has its pluses and minuses. The advantage is that your performance and record are better known, but of course that can also be a handicap," said College Professor of French Edward Knox, who has also served as vice president for academic affairs and acting president.

A senior member of the faculty told *The Campus*: "There is always a lot of talk of someone from the inside versus someone from the outside. There seems to be a culture at Middlebury where only insiders get the presidency, something that is suspicious about outsiders." The source links this suspicion in part to the memory of the one-year presidency of Timothy Light, who accepted Middlebury's top job in May 1990 while serving as the acting President of Kalamazoo College. Light resigned in September 1991 after relations with the College community deteriorated partly as a result of staff cuts.

Another faculty member pointed to the presidential search as an opportunity to enhance the College's prestige. "Every serious academic institution, certainly those to whom we compare ourselves and like whom we would like to be — the Ivy League schools — understand the opportunity that a presidential search brings to an institution," a senior member of the faculty said. "They never choose a sitting provost or dean, they always choose an outsider — someone who was a dean, a provost or even a president some place else, who knows academia, who has an experience different from theirs. If we want to be taken seriously we must have a president who comes to us from a highly reputable institution."

Other faculty members, however, place a premium on the continuity of leadership.

"I can't believe there's another candidate out there better qualified to be president of Middlebury, or president of a school like Middlebury, than Ron Liebowitz," Lindholm said.

"Middlebury is not a school in crisis, or suffering from overconfidence or malaise. We need continuity, not shaking up," he continued.

The 'Scholar' President

The desire for an academic leader — for a "scholar" president and not a manager or businessman — recurred among faculty members' comments to *The Campus*.

"The faculty has expressed on numerous occasions the concern that the next president be someone who is committed to academics — someone for whom Middlebury is first and foremost an educational institution. This is code for not Ron," a senior member of the faculty said.

"McCardell is a scholar. Liebowitz has published nothing to speak of," said a member of the administration. "The man does not contribute to scholarly journals. He doesn't have ongoing research. He's a professional manager. In order to inspire the faculty, we need to have someone who's an active researcher."

While the provost is regarded as the chief academic officer of the institution, the president is responsible for setting the overall strategic direction.

"I would describe McCardell as a person with vision and Ron as a person who has been busy implementing that vision," said a member of the administration. "If Ron has a vision, I'll be damned if I know what it is."

Lindholm remains solidly behind Liebowitz's bid for the presidency. "He should keep [the College] on course and give it his own vigorous, personal stamp. Let's get serious — there's a better candidate out there, better qualified and prepared? I don't think so," he commented.

Secretary of the College Eric Davis and Vice President for Academic Affairs Alison Byerly declined to comment for this article.

ON THE SPOT

Albert Bitici

Racking his brain, a local elementary school student searches for a response in the Vermont State Geography Bee, held in Munroe Lecture Hall Friday afternoon.

Suspect steals $300 from student in Ross restroom

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ler added.

The suspect remained at large at press time. Middlebury Police Officer Ken Hawkins said town police arrived at the scene at 6:51 p.m. after being summoned by the Department of Public Safety. "It occurred in a populated area, so there are lots of interviews to conduct," said Hawkins. He declined to comment further on the ongoing investigation. Ross Dining Hall Manager Brad Koehler confirmed that 6:30 p.m. is "prime business" for Ross. The dining hall serves roughly 1,000 students per night.

"I don't know whether this person [the suspect] is a member of our community," said Assistant Director of Public Safety Melody Perkins. Keeler added: "I don't know if it was a student. I don't know if it was a townsperson."

Keeler said that students have approached her about the status of the investigation. "I'm just telling everyone to stay vigilant," she said. "Keep an eye on each other."

Seniors to give Fleishman-McCardell Scholarship

By Andrea Gissing
Associate Editor

The Senior Gift Committee announced in an e-mail to the Class of 2004 Monday that the senior gift will be the Class of 2004 Fleishman/McCardell Scholarship. The Committee, co-chaired by seniors Athenia Fischer and Sara Sharkey, decided, based on student input, to raise funds to support a scholarship to be awarded to a current Middlebury student. The Scholarship was created to honor the presidency of John McCardell and in memory of Jason Fleishman '03.5.

Courtesy

The senior class gift will honor the late Jason Fleishman '03.5.

The Senior Gift Committee decided to honor McCardell and Fleishman together in this scholarship because "[its members] felt really strongly about both people," explained Sharkey. Many seniors knew McCardell well while others may not have known him at all, and the same for Fleishman. "Having both names on the scholarship will be a great way to reach the whole class," Sharkey said. "Also, [McCardell and Fleishman] had a close relationship and it makes perfect sense to put them on the same scholarship." McCardell's vision was one of a general betterment of Middlebury College and in his inaugural speech he urged students to better the College community and promote diversity on campus. Fleishman, the Committee felt, really learned to see the world from another's perspective. The scholarship will be awarded next year to a Middlebury student who has need, who exemplifies McCardell's vision and personifies Fleishman's legacy. The beneficiary would have to demonstrate that he or she has an active commitment to bettering the Middlebury community. The Scholarship would be for one year only – if the scholarship were to be offered for multiple years it would have to be endowed and the class would have to raise at least $100,000. The goal of the Committee is to raise $10,000, which will serve to support one student. The Committee hopes to raise more than that, however. They have set a target of $25,000. This would allow their effect to be greater and could potentially increase the number of students who could receive the scholarship. Ultimately the financial aid office will make the decision as to who will receive the scholarship.

The Gift Committee decided the ideas for the senior gift. "A study carol in the new library would have been the easy choice," said Sharkey, "but [the scholarship] is something that we felt would spark people's interest. The memory of these two men is something powerful and compelling." Between 200 and 300 seniors voted on the senior gift. Other ideas included making a donation to the Snow Bowl project, making a gift to the annual fund and also raising money to help fix the basement of Carr Hall, the home of PALANA. From now until the end of the year, the Senior Gift Committee will solicit money from the senior class. Additionally, they will set up tables outside of Proctor so that other members of the community who wish to contribute may do so.

People who wish to contribute to the Class of 2004 gift may do so online at www.middlebury.edu/giving.

Vlad Lodoaba

The Senior Gift Committee hopes to raise $25,000 for the Fleishman/McCardell Scholarship, which will be awarded to a current student.

SGA and SCCOCC elections take shape

Candidates for SGA president and student co-chair officially announced

By Ben Salkowe
Staff Writer

Two candidates for President of the Student Government Association (SGA) and a lone candidate for Student Co-Chair of Community Council (SCCOCC) are expected to run in this year's elections. Jimmy Hickey '05 and Andrew Jacobi '05 both intend to run for President of the SGA. Mike Vilarello '05 still remains uncontested in the candidacy for SCCOCC.

The SGA Presidential candidates, Hickey and Jacobi, represent the inside and outside of the SGA. Hickey is currently an SGA Senator and a student member of the Academic Judicial Board. He plans to use that experience to his advantage, emphasizing that he has "a well-founded and informed understanding of not only what needs to be done but of what can be done, practically speaking, on this campus."

Jacobi, despite being the "outsider" of the race, claims he is not a novice to the SGA, and has followed the SGA minutes and *The Middlebury Campus* all year in preparation. "I am not on the SGA, and so I guess I get the label of 'outsider.' But that doesn't mean that I am either uninformed or revolutionary," he said.

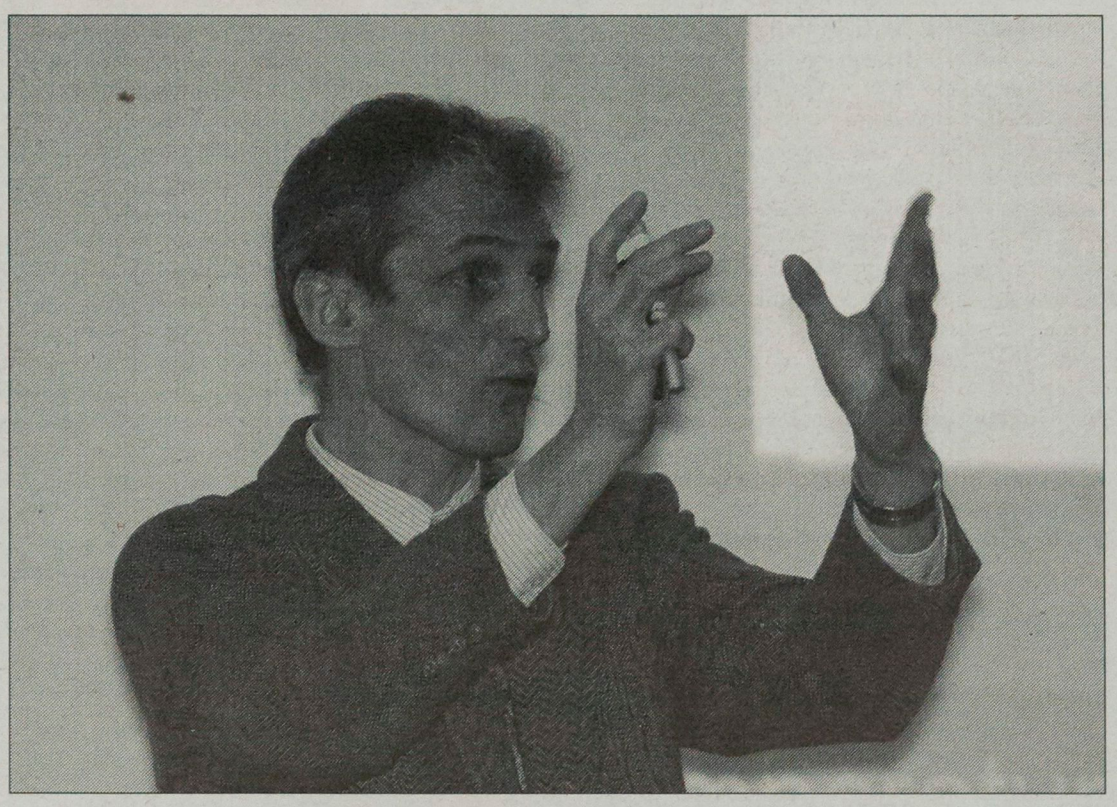
The election for SCCOCC will essentially be handed to Vilarello since Andrea LaRocca '05, who is currently studying at Harvard University for the semester, chose not to run earlier this week. According to SGA President Sam Rodriguez '04, she was considering holding a campaign from Harvard, but ultimately opted to drop out of the race. Vilarello has been in the SGA since his freshman year and is currently an SGA Senator. Although he is the sole candidate for the student co-chair position, he will still participate in the forum for debate.

Candidates are not permitted to make presentations or campaign until they receive SGA Senate approval on Sunday. Along with petitions of 100 signatures and ID numbers, statements of intent are also due at that time. According to SGA Director of Membership Courtney Taylor '04, "these will be posted on the SGA website for students to read and review."

Beginning Monday, campaigning will run until online voting begins on Thursday, April 22, and a candidate debate is planned for Wednesday, April 21, the evening before polls open. The debate will be hosted and mediated by WRMC in The Grille, but a time has not yet been established.

Following the close of polls at noon on Friday, April 23, results of the 2004-2005 SGA and SCCOCC elections will be verified by the Chair of the Elections Council and Dean of Student Affairs and, barring any difficulties, results will be published later that afternoon.

NOBEL OR BUST



Vlad Lodoaba

Ken Davis '90 returned to campus to give a Physics Department lunch seminar on Monday. Davis won a Nobel Prize in physics for proving the existence of a form of matter.

Chip says goodbye

By Myra Palmero
Staff Writer

Effective June 7, Middlebury College will end its use of the "chip" card system and return to solely debit card and cash transactions. Additional debit/credit card machines, as well as bill-changer machines for more uncomplicated vending operations, will replace card-reader machines that currently handle "chip" card transactions in The Grille, MiddExpress, vending machines, copiers and laundry rooms. Students will be completely refunded for any amount still stored on their chips by that date.

The chip system was installed at the College in 1996. At that time, about a dozen other schools were also testing the system, with the expectation that the idea would be widely embraced. However, the fragility of the computer chip meant the card constantly had to be replaced, making the system more complicated and problematic than helpful. As further proof of the failure of the "chip" system, only one of the four chip card manufacturers that were in business when the College installed the system still remain today.

Next year, the magnetic strip card currently used to unlock doors after 11 p.m. will still be used as an access and library card, but students will have to depend on their own cash and outside debit/credit cards for financial transactions. Laundry transactions may be replaced by a laundry card, and the future of the College's long-distance telephone service is still being discussed. If the cash/debit card system does not work, the College may consider the magnetic strip system that most banks and schools currently use. According to Assistant Treasurer Tom Corbin, "The students will probably be better off with a bank debit card anyway, because you can use it wherever you want and at the end of the year, you won't have to worry about whether you have any money left in it or not."

A campus divided?

Do social houses and the commons system co-exist peacefully at Middlebury?

By Andrea Gissing
Associate Editor

There are two halves to every whole, two sides to every coin, some might even say that there are two types of Midd-kids — those who like the commons system and those who don't. With room draw becoming more commons-focused, the increased number of high profile social events — with or without alcohol — being hosted by the various commons, the move to decentralize dining and a noticeable amount of scrutiny being placed on the social houses with regards to past transgressions, it seems as though social life is being deliberately herded towards a more commons-centered state. In response to this apparent shift, the latest issue of *Also* featured a "Commons Report Card," and Professor of Sociology and Religion Burke Rochford's 301 class is currently conducting a survey of students' opinions of the commons system. But just how much is social life on campus shifting?

There has been a noticeable increase in the number of commons-sponsored events serving alcohol. As the number of social house events on the weekends seems to wane in comparison with past years, there is speculation that the commons are taking over what has commonly been seen to be the social houses' niche. "In the fall of 2000 it seemed like there were social house parties every weekend night," said Gabriel Real De Azua '04. "There was an abundance of choice."

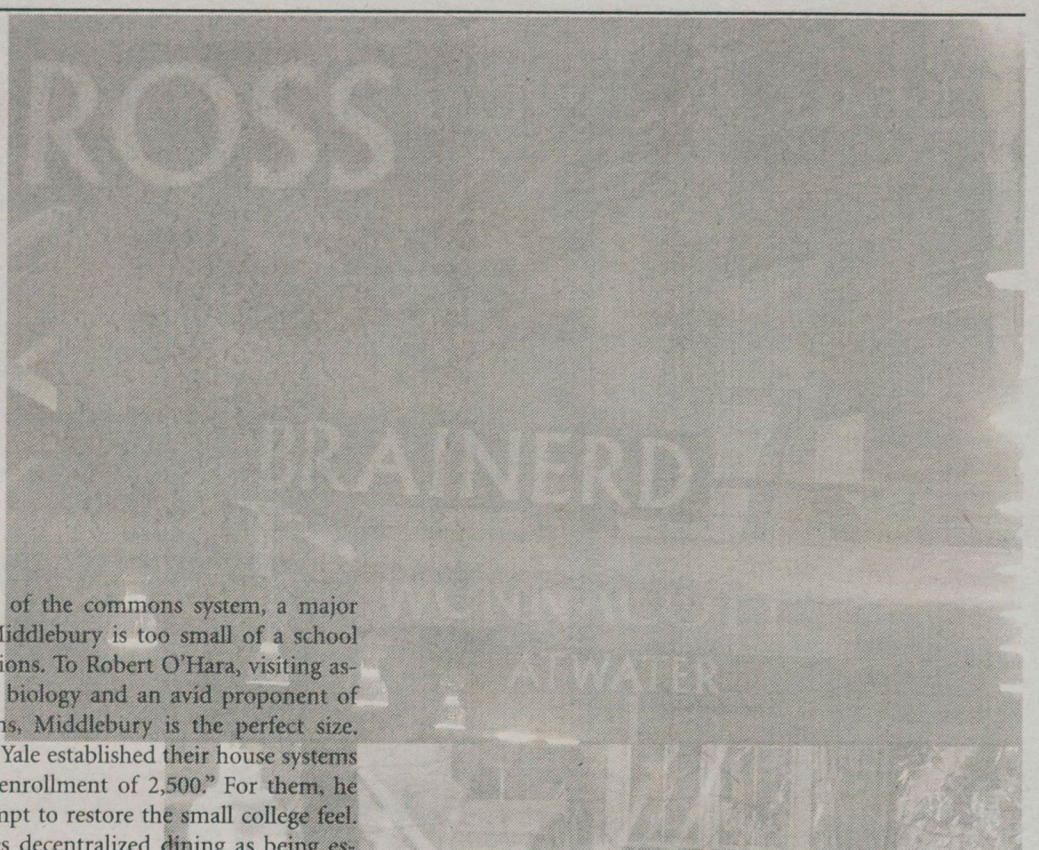
"I hear regularly from the social houses that it's tough for them to provide social outlets for the entire campus," said Dean of Cook Commons David Edleson. To alleviate the pressure of being the only source of parties on the weekend "they would like to see more lounge parties" or activities of that type.

"We recognize that in the early period the commons were charged with creating more programming that wasn't centered around drinking and alcohol," said Edleson. "The commons councils have largely done that, and I don't feel like anyone feels there's a dearth of activities." However, Edleson feels that the commons should be a part of mainstream life on campus, to augment, not compete with, social house parties.

The increased number of commons parties with alcohol comes out of concern for off-campus parties and drinking and driving, Edleson explained.

JS Woodward '06, a Cook Commons tri-chair, said that the increased amount of alcohol at commons events came from the "top down." "We were told that we had to sponsor more events with alcohol to prevent people from going off campus. It's difficult," Woodward continued, listing Vermont liquor laws and the cost of catering as obstacles to throwing parties with alcohol. In order to throw a large party with alcohol, the commons must have catering supply and serve beverages. "It's not the same, being handed a cup from a waiter," said Woodward. Edleson agreed, saying that "parties hosted by catering are not mainstream student parties. They don't have the same feel." For small parties, the money for drinks has to come from those organizing the event, as commons money cannot go towards buying alcohol.

Woodward would like to see an increase in the number of alcohol events hosted by Cook and the other commons. "It would increase the number of attracted students, it would build attachment to the commons and it would keep students on campus."



For opponents of the commons system, a major argument is that Middlebury is too small of a school to warrant subdivisions. To Robert O'Hara, visiting assistant professor of biology and an avid proponent of residential commons, Middlebury is the perfect size. "Both Harvard and Yale established their house systems when they had an enrollment of 2,500." For them, he said, it was an attempt to restore the small college feel. Additionally, he sees decentralized dining as being essential to developing the commons system. "It gives commons members the sense that 'this is our place.'" However, students express concern that the direction the College is taking the commons system with the plans for decentralized dining aims to fragment the campus. Indeed, it is somewhat ironic that the move on the College's part to centralize dining in the late 70s and early 80s helped contribute to the decline of the fraternities. "The frats considered dining to be their lifeblood," said Karl Lindholm, dean of advising and assistant professor of American Literature. "Back then dining was very decentralized but also very expensive." Lindholm observed, "It scares students to have any of their options restricted, especially with the difficulties regarding housing." Lindholm is sympathetic to those students who feel their soul mate might be eating in another hall, but the dining halls would hold between 400-500 people — still a large number of students eating together. "The goal of the commons system," said Lindholm, "is to try and create an atmosphere that's conducive to developing relationships. Ross at noon is not a commons experience," he said, referring to the large number of midday diners, "but at non rush-hours you can see a lot of faculty eating there. It becomes a more heterogeneous atmosphere."

Lindholm sees the commons system as being more low-key rather than a point of contention. "[The commons system] and the new dinning halls are a way of organizing the campus. It's what you make of it, who cares if you do or don't want to participate?"

For Real De Azua, however, his impression of the commons system is quite different. He has never had a need to participate in commons events, and found that, especially for first-years, the commons system has a kindergarten-esque way of treating students. "Activities don't need to be spoon-fed to me. People who want to be involved go and search for activities. It should be up to you and your friends."

Amy Knapp and Lorraine Zak, commons coordinators of Cook and Wonnacott Commons respectively, can remember when the commons system was first implemented at Middlebury College. "It started nine years ago," they said, "but was a skeleton structure." The commons system organized as it is now started five years ago. Now Knapp and Zak get to know students as they pass in and out of the commons offices, sometimes just to grab candy, other times to talk to the dean or to take part in Wonnacott's Fondue Friday or Cook's recently developed Fruitshake Friday. When asked about the people who venture into their commons offices, Knapp noted that there often is a "core group" of visitors that she always sees filling the chairs in the Cook headquarters. Zak concurred, but also noted that "there is a fringe group of people too, and because so many people move into and out [of Wonnacott] we get to know more people passing through our office." Zak expects this though. "We know that when housing is fixed [the turnover of commons members] will be a reality," she said.

Instead of being an obstacle to developing a commons community, however, she and Knapp see it as beneficial. "There are 'honorary' Cook members," said Knapp, "people who come and hang out in the office because they have friends who are in Cook. The real goal is a personal touch. We're there for the students. I wouldn't turn someone away because they're in Wonnacott or Brainerd and they're coming to my office for help."

Zak describes the fluctuating levels of commons identification as an "ebb and flow." "First-years," she said, "connect more with their commons," especially with Wonnacott and Cook, because their offices are right in their first-year dorm. Sophomores move about, and juniors often go abroad. Zak finds that the first-years she gets to know often stay in touch or stop by the office, because of those connections they have made. "We're evolving," Zak said of the commons. "We will continue to evolve. We want to touch lives but we don't want to force ourselves on students."

Knapp, also describing the ebb and flow of students, said, "Each class is different and will use their commons as they want to. The importance of the commons," she heard a student once say, "is that there's someone there who knows me, who knows who I am." Knapp recounted the student's comment that "people who bash the commons don't know the benefits of it."

Some might feel like the high profile disciplinary action being taken against some social houses in the recent past is indicative of an administrative wish to "shut down the social houses." Kris Burfitt '05, vice-president of Tavern and co-chair of the Inter-House Council, said, "We get that feeling all the time [that there's a wish to close down the houses], but we don't have proof. Sometimes it also feels like the administration is working for us as well." He added that there hasn't really been an increase in probation, and that the rates have been about normal.

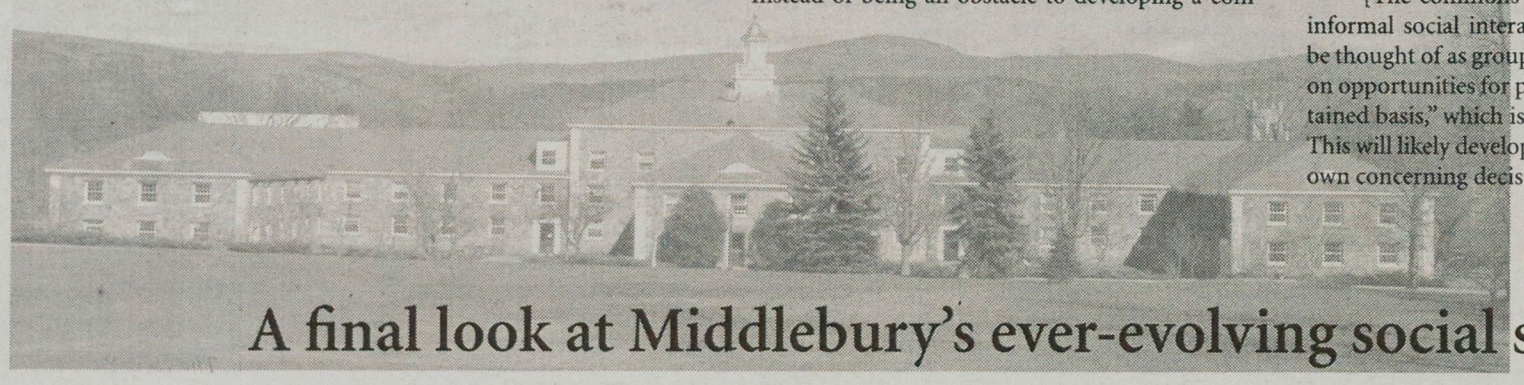
"I have never heard in an administration conversation any plan to get rid of the social houses," noted Edleson.

For Burfitt, the commons system and the social houses are not mutually exclusive. "[Tavern] has a co-chair of Wonnacott as a member, there are former tri-chairs and JCs. We interact with each other because every student is part of the commons."

"I don't feel most of the time that there's a lot of competition between the social houses and commons events," said Woodward, "unless it's a big event. People go to social houses for the atmosphere. Social house parties are more centered around alcohol than commons events." Woodward did qualify that he finds commons events to be more fun, however, many social house members, like Burfitt and Real De Azua, have little interest in attending commons-sponsored events.

There is little doubt that there will be two camps on campus, one that strongly supports the commons system and another that supports social houses. As long as the commons are seen only as a vehicle for dorm selection the true social aspects of a residential college system will find it difficult to emerge. "For me, the way I transferred from commons to commons was part of the grand scheme of housing," said Real De Azua.

"[The commons system] works well when it emphasizes informal social interaction," said O'Hara. "Commons should be thought of as groups of people, not buildings. It has to focus on opportunities for people to get to know each other on a sustained basis," which is what the commons attempts to do now. This will likely develop in the future, but for now it's each to his own concerning decisions regarding social life.



A final look at Middlebury's ever-evolving social scene, Part 3

SGA gives nod to parking bill

Albert Bitici

Despite an expected decrease in the number of students living off-campus, there could be an increased number of commuter spaces available.

By Meredith Kernan
Staff Writer

At Sunday night's Student Government Association (SGA) meeting, senators unanimously approved a bill that would ease the parking woes of students commuting from off campus.

The bill, sponsored by senior senator Mike Bolger '04, stipulates several main points. First, that Middlebury College provide an increased number of parking spaces for commuter students, defined as any students living off campus regardless of their proximity to the college. Currently 150 students commute to campus each day, yet there are only 28 spaces defined as commuter parking. According to Bolger, who is a commuter himself, finding a commuter parking space during the day can prove extremely difficult. In trying to find a spot on campus, he said, "many commuter students this year have been considerably late for their classes or suffered unfair parking tickets."

The bill further states that these commuter spaces should be centrally located around campus. Currently, commuter students have to park in a limited number of spaces in peripheral lots, including Bicentennial Hall, Twilight Hall, the Center for the Arts and Longwell House. According to Bolger, forcing commuters to park in outlying lots actually increases the number of students driving around. "I find the closest peripheral lot, and then just drive to my next class," said Bolger at Sunday's meeting. "If they [administrators] are trying to create a pedestrian campus this goes against their philosophy." The bill would create spaces designated for commuters in locations including Johnson/Wright Theatre, Old Chapel Road, Robert A. Jones House, behind Proctor, Hillcrest Road (alongside the Proctor tennis courts) and College Street.

After discussion, the senators decided that the language of the bill should not be specific to an exact number of commuter spaces to be established. While 150 students live off campus this year, next year that number is being drastically reduced to 60. "If the number of commuter students was to fluctuate as drastically as it has been in the past few years, [setting a specific number of commuter spaces] could be a problem," said SGA President Sam Rodriguez. The consensus was that there ought to be spaces designated for at least half the number of commuter students, regardless of what that number is.

"It is the philosophy of campus parking control to give faculty and staff parking spaces within a five to seven minute walk" of their classes, said Bolger. "Commuters have to drive to campus every day just like faculty and staff" and "should be extended similar privileges."

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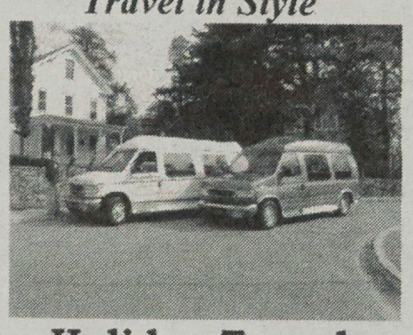

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Security tests citation reform

Continued from page 3

did not differ drastically from the number of citations that might be given for open containers, said Carnabuci, referencing the results of the trial period, "but there were several repeat offenders, which was a new phenomenon."

"Officers felt the policy was not truly effective," he continued, again in reference to Public Safety's findings. "When they asked the students to get rid of the booze — meaning dumping it — the students mostly responded by pounding the beer down and announcing, 'See, I don't have it anymore.'"

Carnabuci added that Boudah expressed concern that Public Safety officers were promoting this kind of behavior, and asked for suggestions from Council members for a more effective policy revision. The Community Council opted to postpone discussion until next week's meeting.

public safety log

APRIL 1, 2004 TO APRIL 4, 2004

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
4/1/04	Unknown	Theft	Furniture	Ross	No Suspects
4/3/04	6:31 p.m.	Robbery	Armed	Ross restroom	MPD
4/3/04	12:00 p.m.	Unlawful Trespass	Unknown	LaForce	MPD
4/3/04	1:11 a.m.	Drug Violation	Marijuana	Starr	Referred to Commons Dean
4/4/04	1:50 p.m.	Property	Damage Proctor Bottle Storage	Proctor	Open

COLLEGE SHORTS

BY AMANDA GOODWIN

College student shot at dance

Last weekend, the Madison campus of New Jersey's Fairleigh Dickinson University — the largest private university in the state, was blocked off after student Robert Brock-Murray, 21, was shot — during a school dance. Six additional students were either injured or stabbed.

The violence allegedly occurred during a period of "escalating confrontation" between two Fairleigh Dickinson students and guests attending the Association of Black Collegians dance. The shotgun victim was deemed to be as in serious condition with non-life-threatening injuries at Morristown Memorial Hospital before being released Monday.

Four individuals — not students at the University — have been arrested on charges of weapon possession, though none were charged with the shooting. According to CNN, one of the men, Steven R. Wright, 20, was charged with possession of a handgun without a permit, and with an unlawful purpose. Currently, Wright is held in County Jail on a $50,000 cash bail.

— Source: CNN.com

Amherst prof's book earns Pulitzer

William C. Taubman, Amherst College's Bertrand Snell Professor of Political Science and member of the faculty since 1967, was recently awarded the Pulitzer Prize for biography for his book, *Khrushchev: The Man and His Era* (2003).

The Amherst College website calls Taubman's work "the first comprehensive biography of Khrushchev, and a combination of historical narrative and psychological and political analyses."

"I feel wonderful," said Taubman, who was educated at Harvard and Columbia Universities, "and privileged to be recognized."

— Source: www.Amherst.edu

Are Bowdoin students happy?

Bowdoin College was the topic a *New York Times* article Tuesday that discussed the recent importance placed on students' personal growth and emotional happiness. The article specifically cited a proliferation of photos of unclothed undergraduates' bodies, in all sizes and forms, around the Bowdoin campus.

The posters — distributed in an attempt to draw attention to an obsession with body image, and to some extent grades and careers — was surprisingly supported by Dean of Student Affairs Craig W. Bradley. Bradley has been part of an effort to encourage finding passion in other activities besides spending hours on a treadmill.

The *Times* linked Bowdoin's recent efforts to a national educational trend of treating many stress-related conditions, and to parents' "heightened consumer mentality" and desire to get their money's worth of their children's happiness.

— Source: *The New York Times*

localnews

Red dot special: Shaw's for sale

Western conglomerate buys out Middlebury supermarket

By Katherine Doorley
Staff Writer

"The times they are a changing." No, Bob Dylan is not coming to Middlebury. On the contrary, a familiar Middlebury institution is about to get a face-lift, or at least undergo a change in management. The management of the Shaw's supermarket chain announced on March 26 that the Shaw's and Star Markets Supermarket chains were sold to Albertsons Incorporated, a larger grocery chain, for $2.5 billion.

Albertsons will gain a great deal from this business decision. JA USA Holdings Inc., the current owner of the Shaw's chain, is the 11th largest supermarket chain in the United States, owning both Shaw's and the Star Market chain. According to Albertsons officials, in acquiring the Shaw's and Star Markets the corporation will gain a number one or two share in six New England states in addition to their already large market shares in the West and Midwest where a majority of the Albertsons stores are located. Albertsons will add the Shaw's stores to its collection of over 2,300 stores across 31 states, making it one of the largest owners of supermarket chains in the country.

Albertsons has no intention of closing any of the Shaw's stores or substituting products for the familiar Shaw's brand.

As with every business deal, the announcement of the buyout has raised many questions for those affected by the move. Officials from Albertsons have issued several press releases informing concerned Shaw's shoppers and employees that no substantial changes will result from the buyout and that Albertsons has no intention of closing any of the Shaw's stores or substituting Albertsons brand products for the familiar Shaw's brand.

President and CEO of Shaw's Paul Gannon noted on the Shaw's website that, "The stores will continue to operate under the Shaw's or Star banners. Shaw's will continue as an operating division of Albertsons with headquarters in West Bridgewater, Mass. The scale of Albertsons puts Shaws in an even better position to compete in today's marketplace."

It appears that business will continue as usual at Shaws despite the merger. Nothing will change here in Middlebury other than the addition of the Albertsons crest to the nametags of the Shaw's employees, and perhaps a few as yet undisclosed policy changes. The store will remain open and the products on the shelves will remain the same as well. While the proper authorities must still approve this transaction, it will in all likelihood be approved with little noticeable impact on Middlebury itself, other than the emergence of one more superstore chain in Vermont.

Albert Bitici
Albertsons Incorporated's buyout of Shaw's won't affect customers, who will find the same products lining the supermarket's shelves.

WHO IS ALBERTSONS INCORPORATED?

Founded: 1939 by J.A. Albertson
Headquarters: Boise, Idaho
Total Stores: Approximately 2,300
Geographic base: 31 states
Employees: 200,000
Affiliates: Acme, Jewel-Osco, Osco-Drug, Savon, SuperSaver Foods

8
SUPERMARKET SWEEPS
SHAW'S UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP

9
CRYSTAL METHODS
WAYNE COHEN TURNS PASSION FOR CRYSTALS INTO PROFIT

9
APRIL FOOLS SPOOF
LOCAL PAPER HAS SENSE OF HUMOR

10
BEYOND THE BUBBLE
COLLEGE KIDS VISIT BURDACK'S DINER

TRAFFIC STREAM

As water flows below, cars rush across the bridge above Otter Creek on a clear spring morning in downtown Middlebury. With Spring Break already a memory, students await a final break from the cooler tempartures of recent days.

Photo by Albert Bitici

Wayne Cohen's passion is crystal clear

By Joshua Carson
Local News Editor

Vermont is a unique state, known for its beautiful mountains, environmental awareness and independent thinking on virtually every topic from ice cream to civil rights. But Wayne Cohen of Middlebury is trying to make it known for something new — crystals.

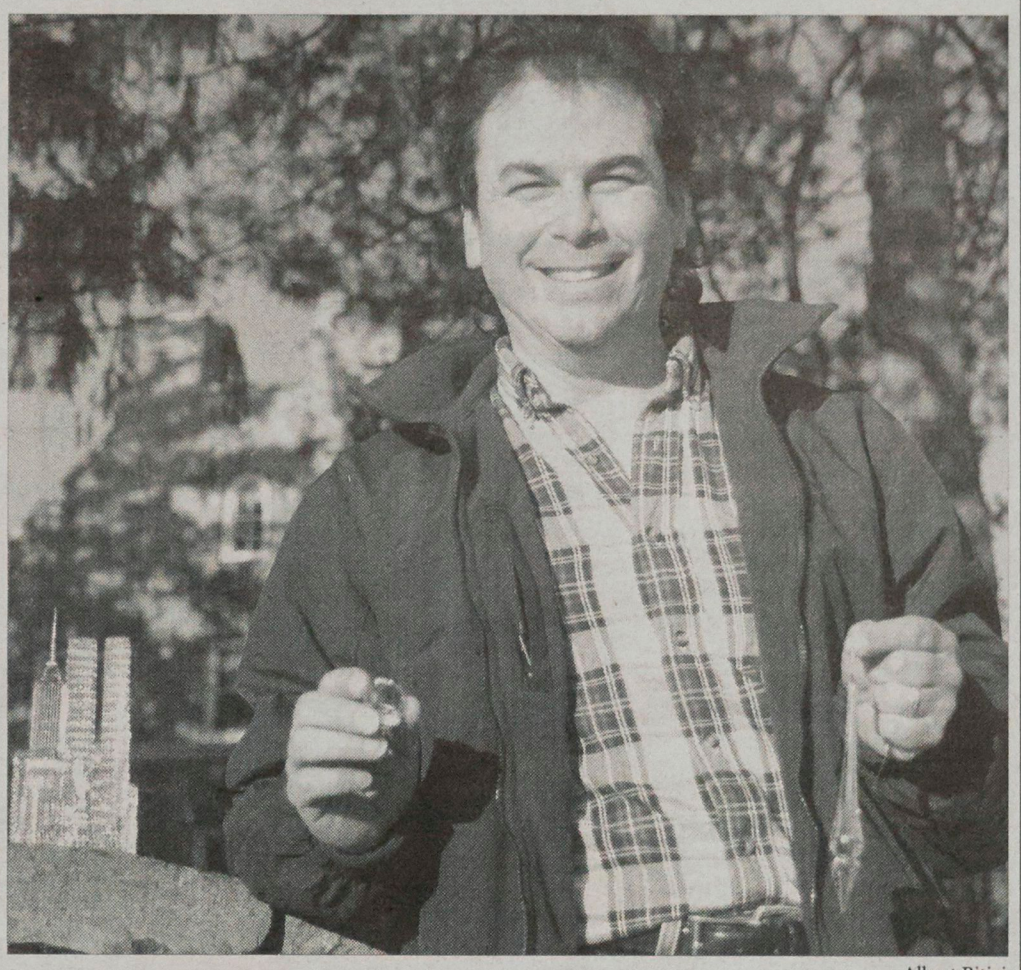
Cohen runs his business, the Crystal Emporium, from his home behind the Middlebury Airport. Here, on a long country road Cohen indulges in his passion for crystals, buying and selling them online. As a young boy, Cohen had always been interested in light and how it refracts to create breathtaking images like rainbows. His passion for the elegance and simplicity of crystals increased during his college career and adulthood as he developed the scientific background necessary for a true understanding of optics, light refraction and rainbows.

Looking for a new project to keep him busy, he finally decided to pursue his passion and begin his own crystal "emporium." He noticed that most jewelry stores selling crystal were charging excessively and so, with the support of his wife, he decided to give the industry a shot.

Lacking the financial capital to open an actual store, he turned to what many entrepreneurs are heralding as the new means of commerce — the Internet. With a flashy new website and an eBay store, Cohen registered the business and domain name, www.crystal-emporium.com, with the state of Vermont and began to court customers and make contacts in the industry.

Cohen now provides full-leaded crystal products like crystal balls, paperweights, ornaments, lighthouses and jewelry to customers throughout the country, running the entire operation from his basement computer. However, he claims his most popular item is the crystal representation of the Star Trek Voyager. "Those Trekkies," he mused, "they will grab anything."

His goal for the site and the business is not only to provide full-leaded crystals at reasonable prices but also to provide customers with a website which is both aesthetic and educational. On the site, Cohen first provides a biography of Daniel Swarovski, the eminent Austrian who perfected the art of crystal cutting and manufacturing. He also includes a brief history of each object, like crystal balls and obelisks.



Albert Bitici

Wayne Cohen, founder and owner of the Crystal Emporium, displays his full leaded crystals, which are available for purchase on his website, www.crystal-emporium.com.

Cohen hopes soon to reach out to the greater Middlebury community by performing mini laser light shows in local schools to introduce children to crystals through a medium that is fun, interactive and educational. "I would like to come up with a fun, exciting, interactive hour-long presentation which I could bring to the science classrooms of the area junior and senior high schools," he said.

While the business is still in its incipient stage, Cohen has broad long-term goals. He would love to be able to open a physical store some day, with "lights beaming so that people have to walk in with sunglasses." He also hopes to be able to jump onto the distribution side of the industry, providing local stores with crystal products and guiding other entrepreneurs as they enter the business of selling crystal.

Although Vermont and Austria may not appear to have much in common besides mountains, skiing and a few French people, Wayne Cohen is adding one more similarity to the list. Armed only with a passion for crystals and an eBay store and a website, Cohen hopes to develop his part-time business into a full-time job while educating and entertaining each customer that he encounters.

Clintongate scandal rocks town

Addison Independent dupes readers with mock articles

By Lisie Mehlman
Local News Editor

"Clinton targeted for college prez," read the headline on the front page of Monday's *Addison Independent*. Interested readers who pressed on into the article, all the while calmly drinking their orange juice at the breakfast table or while waiting in line at Shaw's, came across quotes from members of the Middlebury College Board of Trustees as well as College administrators, including Eric Davis, secretary of the College and professor of political Science.

Yet, only the sharpest or most calendrically attuned readers immediately realized that the article was, in fact, merely a hoax fabricated by the local newspaper in the spirit of April Fool's Day. "A fairly common joke around campus this spring was the suggestion that Howard Dean might be interested in the Middlebury presidency, now that the American presidency is out of his reach," explained Alison Byerly, dean of faculty, vice president for academic affairs and professor of English. *The Independent* decided to take all this talk about the College's presidency and extend it into a fun April Fool's Day prank which suggested that the presidential search committee would seek former President Bill Clinton as McCardell's replacement.

Howard Dean might be interested in the Middlebury presidency now that the American presidency is out of reach.
—Alison Byerly

In fact, many local residents did not catch on to the fact that this article was a joke. *Independent* Editor Angelo Lynn explained, "In some cases the desire to believe in stories [that] readers feel make sense, or that might change things for the worse, overrides their natural sense of skepticism and, consequently, the phone calls fly before a thorough reading is possible." While the newspaper received many telephone inquiries, the College did not. Phil Benoit, Middlebury's director of public affairs, said that while he didn't get any calls, "People from the community have commented on it. One person told me that she recognized the story as an April Fools idea when she read it, but that she had received a call from a friend who was a former journalist, who took it seriously. That person was convinced that a good journalist had done some digging and unearthed this scoop from good sources."

Davis provided some background on the spoof article in which he was quoted. "Lynn wanted to have some fun on April Fool's Day. He did this the last time April 1 fell on a Thursday, the publication date of the *Addison Independent*. The whole front page of last week's *Independent* was an April Fool's edition — the real paper began on page three."

Other spoofs spiced up the front page of the paper as well. Also printed were articles claiming the town had received a $5 million grant for the Town Hall Theater and that there would be a Leicester-Whiting school merger. Lynn, the man behind these humorous articles, explains his purpose for including the spoofs. "The idea is to make people react emotionally to the story in a way that is memorable, and then — once they have learned that it was an April Fool's spoof and they are initially disappointed or relieved — take that emotional response and challenge the reader to carry through on that emotion. For example, if a reader was thrilled about the prospect of the Town Hall Theater getting the $5 million grant because it would mean wonderful things for the town, and now they know it was not true, our hope is that they will join the community effort to make it come true. We want people to react on their emotions and get involved. The most important part of the spoof was the editorial."

The editorial that appeared Monday was entitled "April Fool's Revisited." It stated, "Our intent, of course, was not to misinform or mislead but to prompt a laugh and further consideration." Lynn later explained that the editorial "explains the rationale for the exercise, and it is more than just getting a laugh. There is a serious side to the spoof. As Tim O'Brien wrote in the book, "The Things They Carried," there is sometimes more truth in fiction."

Rural Realities

By Crystal Belle

As graduation approaches, I find myself reflecting on the many facets of Middlebury that I will miss. Interestingly enough, I will actually miss the town, which I initially believed I hated. The two-block radius is more than a sorry excuse for a town — it is a town, and one I think of as home, in which friendly Vermonters go out of their way to smile at me and all other proud pedestrians. As a result of my non-existent driver's license, I have spent the majority of my time within the rural, collegiate bounds of Middlebury. Don't sigh in disbelief: it has actually been an amazing experience. Where else can you find two thrift stores sharing the same business property? A funky boutique that sells Seven and Lucky jeans? At least six restaurants specializing in various cuisines? Only in the small town of Middlebury, which miraculously manages to encompass a range of cultural drawing cards.

A few small anecdotes will help relay my feelings about the beauty of our town. About two weeks ago, I found myself riding my bicycle into town, despite the falling rain. There I was across from Ben Franklin attempting to lock my bike, although there was probably a one percent chance that someone would steal it, when I realized my combination wouldn't work. Naturally, I panicked, and the New Yorker instinct in me wouldn't allow me to leave my makeshift car unlocked. Understanding quite well the friendly nature of the civilians who make up the petite town, I walked right into the bike shop. I stood at the counter, frown on my face, annoyed on the inside, praying I wouldn't have to purchase another $30 lock. The man at the counter was young and congenial. As soon as I explained the nature of my problem he hurriedly exited the store, leaving the cash register unattended without a thought. This would never occur in my hometown, Brooklyn. He skillfully fixed my lock in about five minutes. As I said "Thank-you," I stood there proud, embedded in a seemingly idealistic culture, in which one cares about his or her neighbors and fellow townspeople. Thanks to his generous help I happily went on my way, entering one friendly zone after another.

Thinking back to my first-year, I remember being stranded in front of the post office with a 40-pound box. Unfortunately, the post office had a weight limit, which I had unwittingly exceeded. What was I to do, as my ride had already left? I just stood there atop the overweight box, when, suddenly, a car pulled up. There she was, a gray-haired woman who was at least 80 years old. She had apple pies and chocolate chip cookies in her back seat. She smiled excitedly, ecstatically, offering me a ride to Mail Boxes, Etc. I happily accepted her offer and she immediately helped me put the box in her trunk, wrinkled hands and all.

These experiences are fragments of my eternal memory and part of the reason why I love this town. Now, it is just as much a part of me as Brooklyn, New York.

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THE LOCAL FLAVOR

BY JOSHUA CARSON AND DAVID PERITZ

RESTAURANT
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HOURS
SUN: 4-1, MON-SAT: 12-2
FEATURES
PIZZA, WINGS, PUB FARE

The term "All you can eat" is usually dangled as an overblown lure to potential customers, but at Manhattan Pizza in Burlington we like to think of the term "All you can eat" as more of a challenge. For $8.95, a price that included unlimited soda, we and three other friends were up to the challenge Manhattan presented us to consume as much pizza and wings as humanly possible sine vomitus.

Each Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday, Manhattan Pizza opens its doors and kitchen to hungry folk looking to get the most bang for their buck. Walking in, we were greeted by a bartender that provided all patrons with countertop service. After paying, we were immediately handed a large cheese pizza and soft drinks of our choice.

The restaurant-slash-pub emits the ambiance of a sports bar with a huge projection screen featuring ESPN as well as other ancillary televisions to provide sports coverage to the entire establishment. A video gaming system reminiscent of cruise ship entertainment from the late 1980s complements the pool table in the back of the restaurant. Each table is tastefully adorned with a mixology periodic table describing the ingredients necessary to concoct various mixed drinks, a classy addition.

Cheese pizza is the primary staple of an all you can eat night at Manhattan but you can also order up toppings like pepperoni, onions and sausage. The pizza is traditional New York-style pizza and despite the fact that we are 400 miles from the City, it was surprisingly good — at least for the first five slices. The crust could have been crunchier, but considering the rate at which the pizzas were coming out of the oven and onto our table, it was an understandable oversight. And for those who enjoy a softer bread with cheese and sauce, you will be satiated by the light and airy dough.

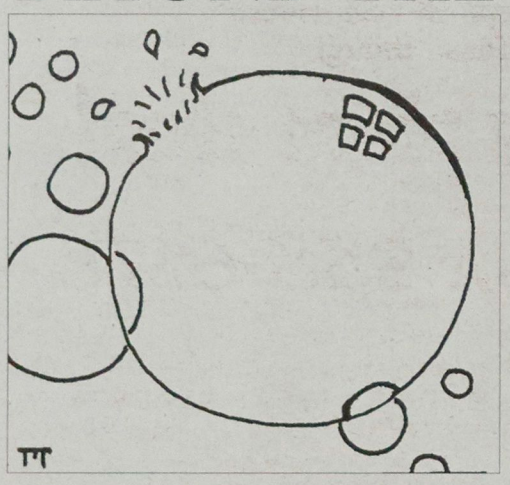
But let us not forget about the wings. Presented in barbeque, teriyaki, cajun, Buffalo and hot Buffalo style, there is more than enough variety to please even the most savvy wing connoisseur. Although the cajun wings were a little dry, the fresh batch of Buffalo wings that came out steaming from the kitchen make the wings at Hooters look as small as the daisy dukes worn by the waitresses.

But if gluttony is not your thing, Manhattan also has a full menu of pub fare including the traditional hamburger, various pasta dishes and some diet-friendly salads. It also has a full bar stocked with both liquor and local brews including Long Trail, Magic Hat, Catamount and Pabst Blue Ribbon (not technically a local brew, but it is on tap).

While there are no waitresses in the traditional sense, the two women who ran the operation from the bar were extremely accommodating — pizza was delivered quickly, our table was bussed efficiently and our drinks were always refilled.

The novelty of eating to the point of discomfort is well worth the car ride, especially when one of your friends is lactose intolerant and forgets to take his Lactase pills before being inundated with thick, mozzarella cheese. We would recommend you set aside at least three hours to complete the drive and dine and at least another 10 to 12 hours until your digestive system is back on track.

BEYOND THE BUBBLE



BY CLAIRE NIELSON AND LISIE MEHLMAN

Lisie really likes diner food. Cheeseburgers, fries, milkshakes, tuna melts, you name it. It is her post-Middlebury dream to move to the South, live in a trailer, work as a waitress in a diner, drive a pick up truck and be swept off her feet by a nice southern gent. She imagines the South to be very "Gone with the Wind."

Her parents maintain that this dream does not necessitate them spending $40,000 a year on tuition. Claire makes fun of this dream. However, secretly, she really shares in it. Only she would rather not live in a trailer. And being a waitress is only a temporary part of her plan. She will only don that apron until she is discovered by a talent agent to be the next Jessica Simpson. But she does know that chicken of the sea is tuna, not chicken.

So, we two southern belle wannabes ventured out to Burdack's Country Kitchen on Route 7 for some good old-fashioned country food. It's not exactly a diner, but it is pretty darned close. At the diner in Boise, Claire explained on the drive out, the crowd is comprised of leather jacket-wearing motorcyclists (perhaps members of the Christian Motorcycle Association). We were expecting sort of a crazy scene. Maybe a brawl or two. Boy were we off-target.

At about 11:30 on a fine Sunday morn, we entered the cozy kitchen. It was the type of place that looked like it would have needlepoints reading "Home is where the heart is" and "Stressed is desserts spelled backward" hanging on the walls. The dining area looked suprisingly similar to Proctor. In fact, it had that same ambiance of Lisie's grandparents' living room. However, nestled within its cabinets there were no pieces of Hannukah wrapping paper circa 1972. It had some booths and tables and then a countertop. Understandably, we chose to sit at the counter to get the full diner experience we sought. The waitress was a bit brisk but was kind enough to put whipped cream on our chocolate milks, so we liked her.

We began people watching. It took about a full three seconds to realize that we were the youngest people in Burdack's. And when we say youngest, we mean that everyone else was old. Noticeably old. Geriatrics. We wondered if perhaps a local nursing home had taken a field trip. It was just the strangest thing in the world. There was one man in the corner with a respirator. Two women were confined to wheelchairs. Claire swore she saw a bedpan in one booth. Needless to say, we gobbled down our tuna sandwiches and chocolate milk and darted out of Burdack's as quickly as possible.

After our laughing subsided, we vowed that when we make our post-graduation trek down South, we will open up our own diner and not allow old people in. No, just kidding (sort of). But, what we did realize is that, before we start to look like the people that frequent Burdacks for Sunday brunch, we had better do a whole lot of living. So, in three years, after we graduate, those truck stop diners in the South had better be ready for us.

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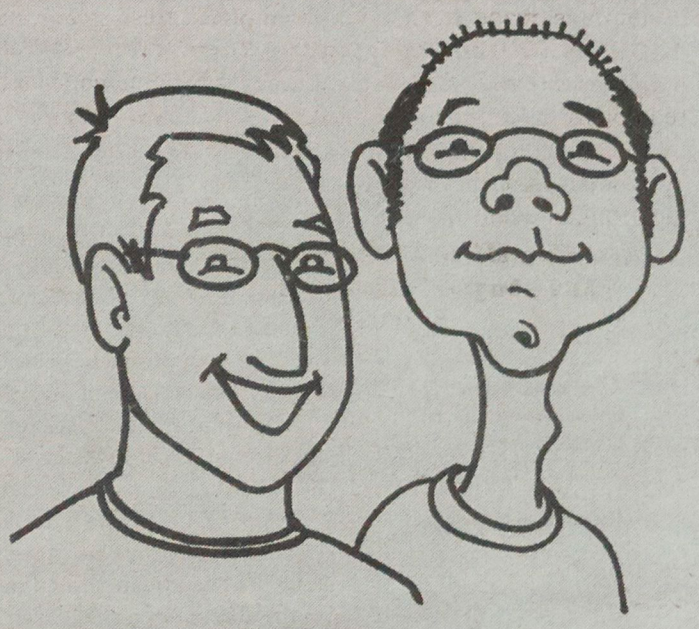

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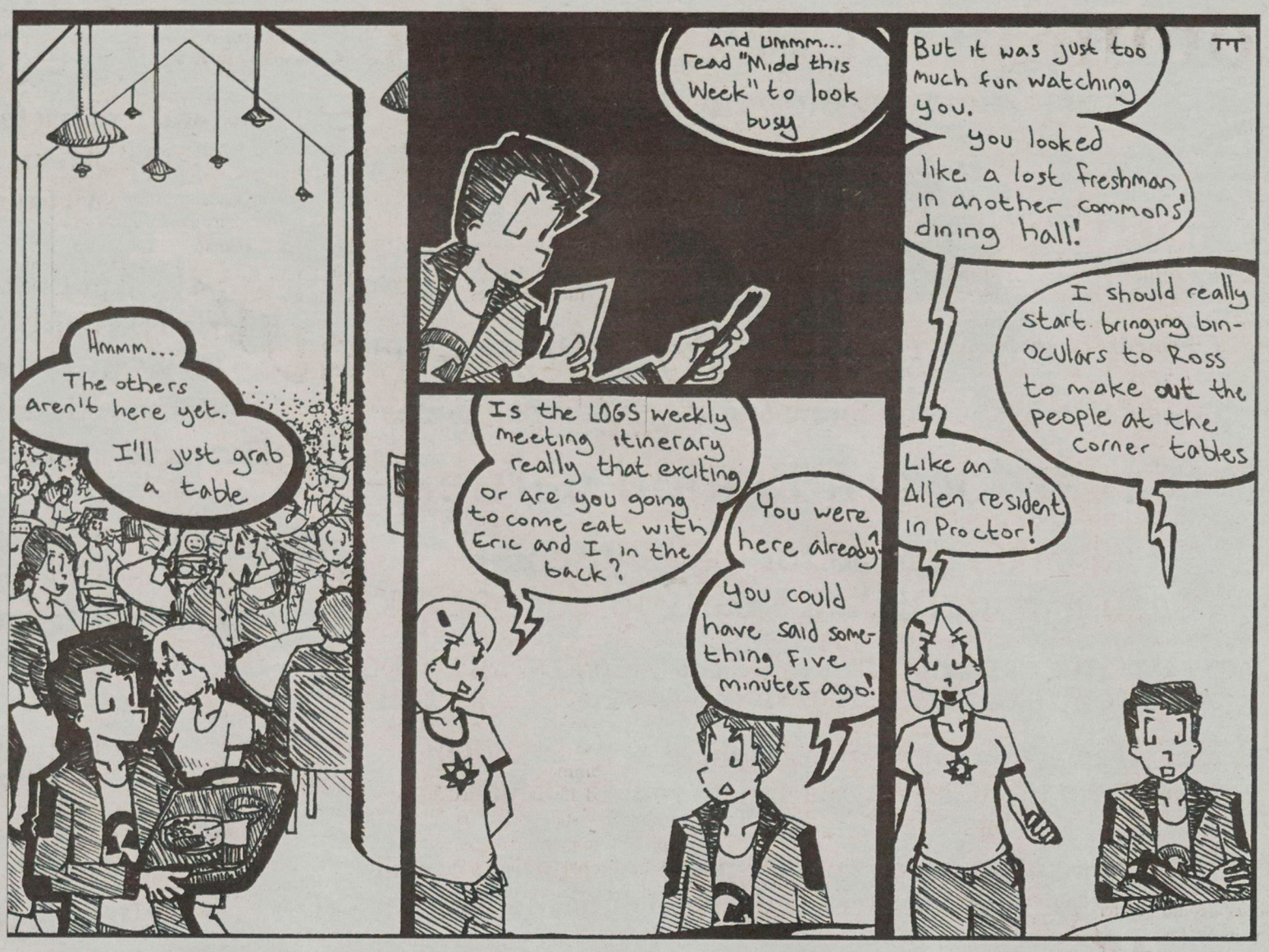
Hmmm... The others aren't here yet. I'll just grab a table
And ummm... read "Midd this Week" to look busy
Is the LOGS weekly meeting itinerary really that exciting or are you going to come eat with Eric and I in the back?
You were here already? You could have said something Five minutes ago!
But it was just too much fun watching you.
you looked like a lost freshman in another commons' dining hall!
I should really start bringing binoculars to Ross to make out the people at the corner tables
Like an Allen resident in Proctor!
TT

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Editorial

A Democracy without Choice?

It's disheartening that only one name will appear on the ballot for Student Co-Chair of Community Council (SCCOCC) this year. Can that be democracy?

There are only two positions elected by the student body as a whole. It's not too much to ask that both be contested — and contested vigorously. The task of representing the student body is a formidable challenge. It's one that few SGA administrations accomplish successfully. But critiquing the performance of those in office is one thing. It's quite another to critique how they come to office in the first place.

That process — a democratic election — is paramount in establishing the issues that should be tackled by the coming year's administration. Elections, after all, force candidates to articulate their platforms and rally support around their ideas.

The SGA presidency always attracts at least two hopefuls. The SCCOCC, however, seems a harder sell.

The past two SCCOCC elections have been contested. The upcoming election is a throwback to 2001, when a candidate won by default by virtue of being the sole name on the ballot.

An SCCOCC who is automatically appointed under the guise of election must prove his or her legitimacy to the student body in other ways. The candidate should start by conducting a full-scale campaign in the absence of a challenger.

The Community Council is, in some ways, more powerful than the SGA Senate. The Council presides over residential policy (read: social houses) and alcohol policy (read: citations), to name just two examples.

The importance of the position demands an election that's actually democratic. And that requires more than one name on the ballot.

OPINIONS SUBMISSION POLICY

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's Web site at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

The Middlebury Campus (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published by The Middlebury Campus Publications. Publication is every Thursday of the academic year, except during offical college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are located in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College. The Middlebury Campus is produced on Apple Macintosh computers using Adobe InDesign 2.0 and is printed by BD Press in Burlington, Vt. The advertising deadline for all display and classified advertising is 5 p.m. Friday for the following week's issue. Mailing address: The Middlebury Campus, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt., 05753. Office phone: (802) 443-5736. Business phone: (802) 443-5737. Please address distribution concerns to the Business Director. First class postage paid at Middlebury, Vt., 05753.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

I wish to express my sincerest concern with the news of Zeta Theta Phi (ZOO)'s imminent removal from Palmer House. To give an idea of why we are concerned with this decision's impact on the College's immediate future, let us imagine the closing of another famous zoo: the National Zoo in Washington, D.C. If the members of this zoo were punished by the national administration due to increased damages to their pens, the animals would not be allowed to roam free and cohabit with the general population. Can you imagine hippopotamuses crashing through cherry trees? Or envision rhinoceroses traipsing around Capitol Hill, indiscriminately spearing civilians. What about baboons, enamored with their sudden freedom, swinging through Senate chambers, tearing down hangings and soiling documents? Howler monkeys taking up residence in a local apartment building would cause other residents to complain and move elsewhere. The chaos, once limited by the animal's common habitat, would spread like toplessness during "Like a Prayer," scattering destruction to the new residences of the former members of the zoo.

It is clear the government would, and should, punish the animals responsible for the destruction, however we do not think any American leader would commit the grievous error of imagining any good could come from turning the perpetrators loose. They would instead enforce stricter punishments for any continuing disrespect, and would allow these animals to remain in a common location where they could limit their destruction to the confines of the ZOO.

Sincerely,
Justin Boren '06
Minneapolis, Minn.

To the Editor:

The success of the Amnesty International benefit concert, "Forget Them Not: A Concert to Benefit the Women of Juárez, Mexico" on Friday, April 2, was a testament to the fact that Middlebury students really do care about pertinent social and political issues around the world. There were over 100 people in attendance and we raised more than $350, which will be donated to a Mexico-based non-government organization that works on behalf of the families of the female victims of the violence in Ciudad Juárez. I would like to thank all those who helped organize the events and all those who attended.

Despite the lack of activism on campus, I believe that, given the opportunity, most students will make the extra effort to do what they can to work towards positive changes in the world. But after seeing how many people are willing to show up to a concert, sign some letters and donate a couple of dollars towards a good cause, I find myself wishing that all of those people would take that willingness one step further and act on it on a regular basis. I think that the level of social and political involvement at Middlebury is at its lowest since I've been here, but I do not believe that this is representative of the compassion of the student body. If you, the students at this campus, truly care about worldly issues, no matter what they may be, I urge you to get involved, even a little. I know that most of us barely have time to spare, but I promise it's worth it.

Sincerely,
Julia Davidson '04.5
New York, N.Y.

Commons, I want a divorce...

MIDDLEBURY COMMONS SYSTEM

This is a fascinating time for Middlebury. When I applied here, three and a half years ago, my great uncle winked at me asked me: "Middlebury, isn't that a party school?" I told him that maybe back in the day it might have had that reputation, but not so much anymore.

We argued for a while, and soon I defaulted to my true criteria for applying: "And then there's this 'rumor,' or whatever, that, like, 90 percent of the students marry each other, or something crazy like that."

Nonetheless, I think I applied to a college right when Americans started really orgy-ing about higher education. Even more, I think I applied to Middlebury at a time when it was really beginning to emerge as a collegiate powerhouse, not just some place—and not just perceived to be for tree-huggers, puck-slappers and preppy rejects.

Given that each year, more and more amazing students apply to schools like Middlebury, I suspect a very intelligent administrator, or group of administrators, detected this trend and saw the commons system as a way to exploit it at Middlebury. By giving us an excuse to expand infrastructure, Middlebury could better position itself for maximum absorption of this increased demand for high-quality education.

I think that the commons poses a threat not just to the quality of a Middlebury education, but also to student life in general. Indeed, it seems we might wish to examine whether the commons could actually be deleterious to *something* that truly makes this place special.

When I got to Middlebury, there weren't angelic enchantresses floating around holding up "Marry-Me-Charlie" signs, but there were free Nalgenes. I brought mine on my This is Vermont trip (MOO scared the suburbia out of me), the prevailing memory of which is a large panorama of those wide-open fields with the trees and the mountains in the background. And along with this visual comes a thought, "I'm not the only guest here. Both this college and I are guests of something more powerful which we're both just standing on, and it permeates everything about our existence here."

At Middlebury, the commons system is the antithesis to this college-imbuing spirit for two reasons: one practical, one philosophical.

Practically speaking, the school is just too damn small. I have all the love in the world for my 40 some-odd Wonnacott brethren from Battell, but my girlfriend's reppin' Brainerd and most of my homes peace-out in Ross and Cook.

I went to a boarding school, moreover, where my class was a paltry 75 homo-sapiens. Spending four years in one commons makes Middlebury, in my view, boarding school part two, minus the rules, plus no change in size, which equals what I would call "savage claustrophobia."

Spiritually, I fear we're going to pay in the long run for trying to be too strategic about promoting Middlebury's growth. My example is Ross Commons. I'm currently a Rosser, and I was attracted to the dream — state-of-the-art dining hall, private gym, spacious suites… it'll be just like my own little apartment or hotel room or something!

Truth is, Ross just doesn't do it for me. Many point to narrow hallways as the culprit (and bang their fingers against the sidewalls in the process). But I believe this goes far deeper. To some degree, Middlebury's recent expansion will always reflect the underlying conception *of* that expansion, which does not focus on Middlebury's strengths. It focuses on trying to be a state-of-the-art Ivy League wannabe.

Indeed, as America still basks in the post-coital afterglow of a decade of economic sexiness, colleges like Middlebury have grown too enamored with the perceived relationship between the quality of education and the popular demand for education. Why, for example, is our top priority building a gargantuan space-library when campus life so obviously suffers from gaping residential inequities? A book is a book, whether Pantherica, the trusty library robot, deshelves it for me or I find it myself.

Even when these inequities are cured, however, the end result is no more enticing. That would be when your commons stops just being a funny name and starts funneling you and 150 of your closest pals through a system that keeps you separated from the rest of the school you thought you were attending.

Maybe a consulting advisor would tell you the Middlebury has made sound decisions. And I'm not going to waste time saying tear down Atwater or the new library "of distinction." But I will say this: along with the new students we're attracting, we're also creating a new identity. It is an identity manufactured more by *US News*, and by the market's fickle conception of what higher education should be, than by what I perceive to be the school's intrinsic spirit. And frankly, it's not one I'd like to marry.

Charlie Goulding '05
A economics major
from Oyster Bay, N.Y.

Get involved to dump Dubya

Statistically speaking, our generation doesn't vote. Unlike our parents' generation who changed an entire foreign policy through protests, we're not exactly all that active either. Come to think of it, I guess our generation is rather apathetic. Most of the people that I talk to claim not to care about politics, and if you look at our generation's voting record, they're probably being honest. But can this truly be? Can our generation, which has so much at stake in the upcoming election, really not care about its outcome? Here's one way to tell. Ask yourself the following question, do you believe in any of the following: a woman's right to choose, affirmative action, decent gun control or saving our environment? Hmmm...Well what about not discriminating against people because they are gay, or maybe even providing health care for all Americans? What about even changing the course of our foreign policy so we don't alienate all of our allies, or maybe you believe that tax breaks should go to the to working class and not the richest two percent of our country?

Answer yes to any of these questions? Well then congratulations, not only do you have a vested interest in this upcoming election, but you have an interest in voting George Bush out of office. And maybe if you make the connection between your caring about any one of these issues and being able to do something about them, you will motivate and want to get involved. But how?

Firstly, vote. It's actually kind of fun, in some places you still get to pull the lever, and this is the most fundamental responsibility of anyone living in a democracy. Secondly, support the alternative to Bush, and get involved in the John Kerry campaign. Make a donation, however small, as the campaign tries to compete with the $200 million that Bush is expected to raise. Don't like giving money? Neither do I, so give your time instead. Volunteer this summer in whatever state you live in for Kerry, answer phones, stuff envelopes, do whatever it takes.

Thirdly, tune in. Stay on top of the news, and check out www.johnkerry.com and www.dnc.org, attend a Students for Kerry or College Democrats meeting and learn more about the issues at stake in November. Don't like Kerry, maybe you wanted another candidate instead? Who cares! The primary season is over, and as young people who have so much at stake in this election you should be driven by your anger and frustration towards Bush, if not by any burning passion for the man from Mass.

The 2000 election was tight, and this year it is expected that it will be even closer. Young people can and will make the difference, just make sure that you step up and do your part.

Chris Shields '04
An international politics and economics major
from Newton, Mass.

NOTES FROM THE DESK

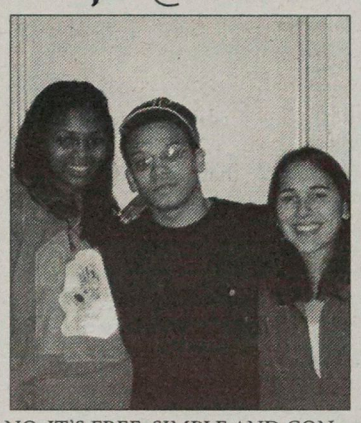
According to the Department of Public Safety, Bradford Buchar is almost six feet tall and weighs about 175 pounds. His hair is brown and his eyes are "hazel." And for almost 24 hours, his age was known to be somewhere between birth and death. We have since been notified that Mr. Buchar is, in fact, 23 years old. We have been asked to report any sightings of this individual to Public Safety or the Middlebury Police Department. The problem is that everywhere I turn I think I see him. A quick survey of Ross Dining Hall — or Proctor or Freeman — turns up dozens of male students who fit the description.

Following on the heels of Friday night's crime alert appealing for help in identifying a robbery suspect, the so-called "trespass alert" did little but rattle nerves across campus. For all we know, this man — this enigma — could be a dangerous criminal. A second e-mail tagged "Update — Trespass Alert" sent Tuesday afternoon did little to clear up obvious confusion among students. "We do not have any immediate or specific threat," the note read. Threat to whom? Or if there is no threat to the general student body, why the urgent e-mail? I wouldn't know Brad Buchar from any other average-looking college-aged male. Which brings me to this: what was the goal of Public Safety's all-student correspondence on Monday night? Did the folks in Harnest House really expect us to keep an eye out for him? Public Safety's incomplete and seemingly hasty e-mail rendered that task impossible from the get-go.

Two years ago, after a student was assaulted and robbed in his room in Hadley Hall, the College reacted by locking dorms. This practice ultimately led to the installation of our current late-night prox card system. Talk about a "false sense of security" lay at the heart of the administrations argument in favor of the new security system. Of course, crime happens everywhere, and Middlebury is no exception. But if the College's security office continues to disseminate information — or solicit help, if that was indeed the intention — in this way, it will only succeed in breeding a false sense of insecurity.

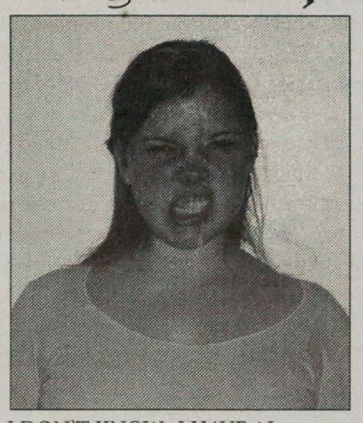
Claire M. L. Bourne '04
Managing Editor
The Middlebury Campus

The Middlebury Campus online poll



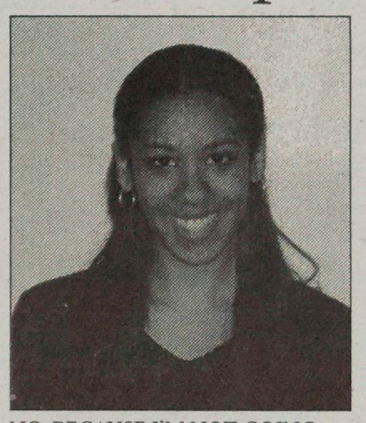
NO, IT'S FREE, SIMPLE AND CONVENIENT. WE'RE FAR AWAY FROM MUSIC STORES. IT'S OUR ONLY WAY TO GET GOOD MUSIC.

—MICHELLE ALBERT '06
BRIAN WILLIS '07
JENN WHALEN '06



I DON'T KNOW. I HAVE ALWAYS WANTED TO BE A PIRATE. AAAAARRRRRR!

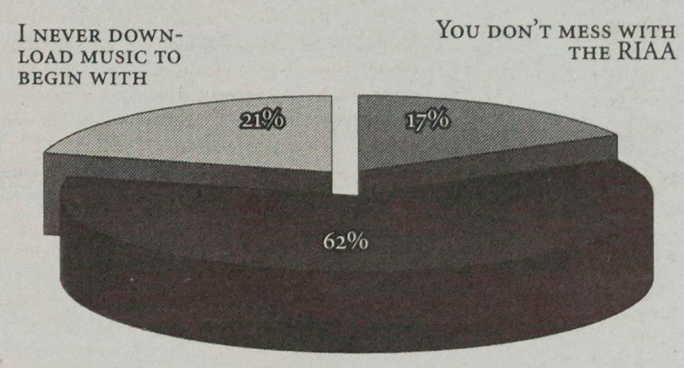
—MEG YOUNG '07



NO, BECAUSE I'M NOT GOING TO BUY THE ALBUMS, SINCE I CAN'T AFFORD IT AS A COLLEGE STUDENT.

—TINA VELEZ '05

WILL THE RECENT CRACKDOWN ON MUSIC PIRACY STOP YOU FROM DOWNLOADING MP3S?



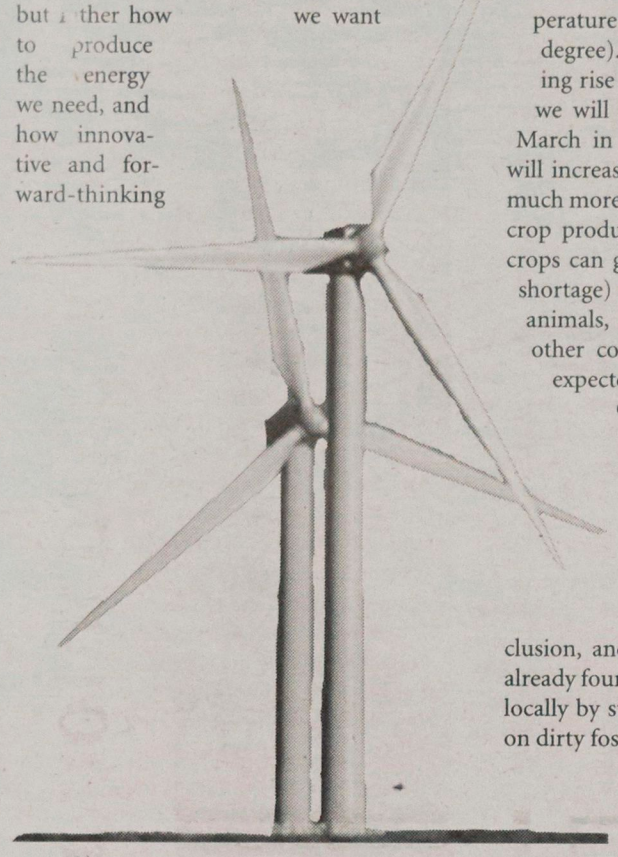
Results based on 53 responses collected between March 31 and April 6 at www.middlebury campus.com

NEXT WEEK'S POLL QUESTION: DID THE NEW ROOM DRAW SYSTEM WORK BETTER THAN LAST YEAR'S?

Wind power electrifies advocate

Vermont's image as the Green Mountain State, full of forests and picturesque cow farms with friendly Ben and Jerry's shops conveniently scattered all around, may lead you to believe that we have few real environmental problems–but don't let yourself be fooled! Vermont has one of the worst automobile emissions per capita rates, has its fair share of polluting corporations and certainly uses a substantial amount of energy each winter to combat its freezing climate.

We need cars, we need many of the goods produced in our factories, and there is certainly no question that we need heat in winter. The choice we face is not whether we are going to live in the modern era and enjoy our lives, but rather how we want to produce the energy we need, and how innovative and forward-thinking we will let ourselves be. While this choice may not appear as pressing as midterms or finals and other things that affect us directly in our day-to-day lives here at Middlebury, it is a choice that will determine the future of the earth.



Global climate change is occurring, and there is significant evidence that increases in greenhouse gases (GHGs), such as carbon dioxide, are the main source of this trend. GHGs contribute to global warming by blocking the escape of heat radiation from our atmosphere, preventing the energy that enters the atmosphere as light from the sun from leaving. The net effect has been a documented increase in average world temperature (somewhere in the range of a degree). The problem with this continuing rise in global temperatures is not that we will need to wear more sunscreen in March in Vermont–increasing temperature will increase weather fluctuations, leading to much more drastic weather patterns, will alter crop productivity and the regions in which crops can grow (creating a world-wide food shortage) and will destroy habitat for plants, animals, California agriculture and many other coastal communities, among other expected problems.

Given that we need energy and that our reliance on fossil fuels for energy is creating global climate change, the logical conclusion seems to be that we need cleaner energy. Thankfully, I'm not the first person to come to this conclusion, and many people in Vermont have already found a way to combat climate change locally by substantially reducing our reliance on dirty fossil fuels through wind power.

Wind power is one of Vermont's least utilized natural assets. If developed it could produce as much as 20 percent of Vermont's electricity. It contributes no pollution to our air (and therefore doesn't contribute to global warming), is entirely renewable, and can be produced at prices comparable to that of other energy sources. One of the strongest arguments against wind power is the mark it makes on our landscape. However, compared to the sight of smoke stacks sending flumes of pollution into our air, the smog that results from air pollution and the loss of Vermont's fall foliage that will result from climate change, the sight of a few windmills on the four proposed sites around the state seems like a nice enough image to me.

Wind power would be a tremendous step forward for the state of Vermont and would benefit the local environment, our communities and the world at large. Unfortunately, Governor James Douglas '72 is considering supporting a proposed two-year ban on building windmills on state land. Now is the time to act to prevent special interests (such as the preservation of the view from the new Jay's Peak resort) from blocking progress towards clean energy in Vermont. Last week, students at Middlebury joined more than 100 campuses around the country and took part in the National Day of Action for Clean Energy. The day of action was part of a larger student campaign to stop global warming from the local level up. If you didn't get a chance to take action last week to help us stop climate change by calling Governor Douglas at 1-802-828-3333 and asking him to support clean wind power for the state of Vermont, it's not too late to do so. For those hundred or more of you who did take the time to call, thank you for taking action, and we hope that you will continue to voice your support for clean energy for the state of Vermont.

JULIA WEST '06
A POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR
FROM IPSWICH, MASS.

Letters to the Editor Continued

To the Editor:

In response to Eric Skaar's '05 letter to the editor, "Enough with Fair Trade," in *The Middlebury Campus* [April 1, 2004]: I applaud Mr. Skaar for finally putting an end to the interminable debate over Fair Trade Coffee. For months, Middlebury students have been arguing the pros and cons of Fair Trade Coffee, seemingly oblivious to the fact that Mr. Skaar knows the correct answer. Now that he has shared it with us, any future debate will be useless.

Yes, the world is indeed an unfair place, and that's the way it's always going to be. There's no way to change anything. In fact, if any of you currently do anything that is in some way unfair to anybody, or unsustainable in the long run — such as eating meat or vegetables — then you should immediately stop trying to make the world a better place.

Mr. Skaar has finally enlightened us with the cold, hard truth: Fair Trade Coffee won't save the world, so there's no use trying. Paying more money for our coffee — in the hopes of enabling suffering coffee farmers to earn a living wage, support their families, promote sustainable farming practices and educate their children — is useless, because in Arizona there are illegal immigrants. These illegal immigrants are being treated unfairly. Therefore, Fair Trade Coffee is entirely useless.

Mr. Skaar's impeccable logic finally allows the Middlebury College community to abandon its naive hopes of world improvement, and concentrate on what's important. Now if only he would tell us what that is.

Sincerely,
David Murphy Haglund '06
Kingston, Ontario

Middlebury College Model United Nations & Rohatyn Center for International Affairs

PRESENT

Might for Right?

The Tension Between International Humanitarian & U.S. Power Interests

April 11 @ 7:30 p.m.: ***"City of God"*** screening. (Dana Auditorium)

April 13 @ 4:30 p.m.: ***"The Politics of Humanitarian Response After 9/11"*** lecture by **Charles MacCormack '63**, president of Save the Children Foundation.* (Robert A. Jones '59 House Conference Room)

April 14 @ 4:30 p.m.: ***"Counter Conceptions: Divergent Views on US Funding of UN Family Planning Initiatives"*** panel with **Ron Green**, director of the Ethics Institute at Dartmouth College, **Ellen Oxfeld**, professor of sociology and anthropology at Middlebury College and **Doug Sylva**, vice-president of the Catholic Family & Human Rights Institute. (Robert A. Jones '59 House Conference Room)

April 16 @ 4:30 p.m.: ***"The Lesser Evil: Hard Choices in the War on Terror"*** John Hamilton Fultun Memorial Lecture in the Liberal Arts by **Michael Ignatieff**, director of the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy at Harvard University.* (Mead Chapel)

April 18 @ 6:00 p.m.: ***Around the World Dinner*** -- free, but limited seating available. Pick up a ticket at your Commons office.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.MIDDLEBURY.EDU/~RCFIA

*sponsored by Rohatyn Center for International Affairs

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Wednesday, April 14, 2004
Visit us from 5 - 6:45 p.m.
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Presentation begins at 7:30 p.m.
In Bi Hall, Room 104
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SPRING FLING JOB FAIR 2004

For Seniors!

Wednesday,April 14, 2004
5:30–7:00 p.m. Ross Dining Lounge

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PROFESSORS GATHER TO DEBATE GIBSON'S 'PASSION'

Right wing takes center stage

By Lynn Gray
Staff Writer

The Middlebury College Republicans hosted the Vermont College Republican Federation Convention last weekend, bringing together students and prominent Vermont Republican party members to discuss pressing social and economic issues in Vermont and around the nation.

Tabby Connor '05, head of the Middlebury College Republicans, explained that the convention marked "the first time in many years the federation has existed, let alone met." Contrary to its liberal reputation, Vermont presently has a Republican Governor, a Republican Lieutenant Governor and a Republican House plurality. The party leaders are seeking to maintain this majority in upcoming elections.

Jim Barnett, Chairman of the Vermont GOP (VTGOP), and Jack McMullen, Republican Senate Candidate, helped kick off the convention on Friday. McMullen spoke to students about the necessity of student activism in helping turn the goals of the Vermont GOP into a reality.

The second day of the convention brought to campus many key officials, including Lieutenant Governor Brian Dubie, House Majority Leader Connie Huston, Governor Jim Douglas '72 and Executive Director of VTGOP Ben Golnik '00.

Dubie was first to speak at Saturday's events. Rather than "do[ing] the political thing," he expressed his views on the outstanding qualities of a good leader. Recalling the loss of a friend with whom he served in the United States Air Force, he said, "Leaders must have a sense of urgency [...] life is a gift [...] we are here [on earth] for a very short time."

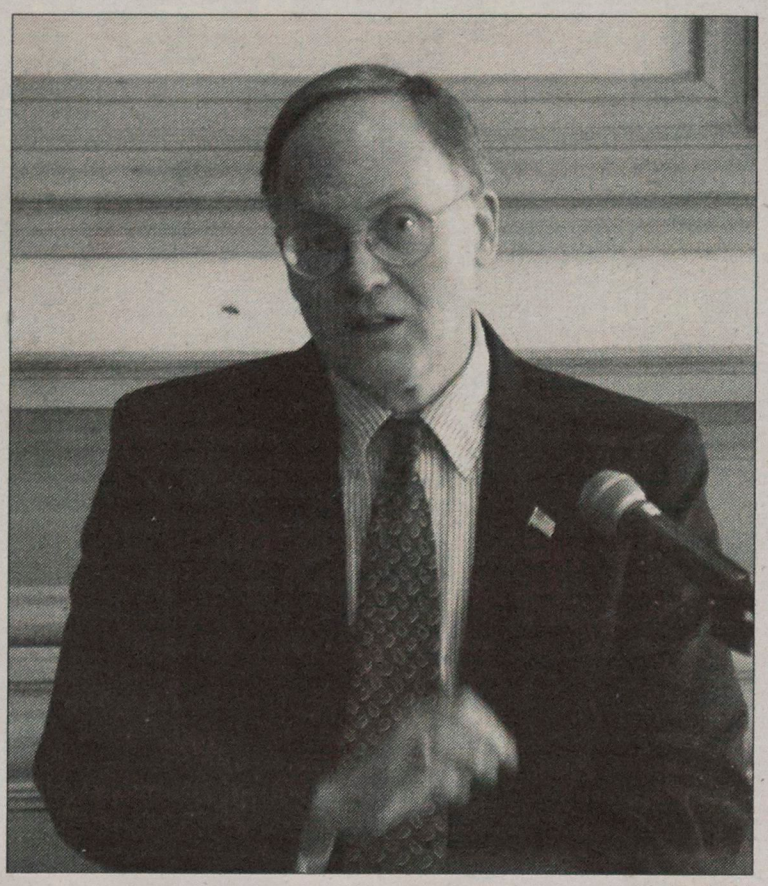
Leaders, Dubie continued, must possess the ability and desire to reach out to the public and better peoples' quality of life. They must think globally and constantly strive to unify people with different ideas and backgrounds. "Leadership is about creating 'same bed, same dreams,'" Dubie explained.

Speaking of his commitment to "dream alignment," Dubie described his "Green Valley" plan for increasing job opportunities in the state of Vermont without sacrificing ecological well-being. "We are going to and must grow [...] but we must not lose who we are," he said. Dubie concluded that leaders must have a specific mission. His is to expand our world, find out who needs help and make universal goals a reality.

Huston, the next speaker, detailed the Republican Party's principles, her personal ideology and Vermont's political issues. She said that she puts great faith in the young generation's increasingly conservative opinions and its ability to restore our nation's values. She ended by stating, "The most responsible government is close to the people. There needs to be a limited central government."

Douglas, once the leader of the Middlebury College Republicans, was the third speaker of the day. Douglas concentrated on his "plan for prosperity" for Vermont. He also mentioned the $9.1 million he allocated to curb the rise in the heroin addiction within the state. Douglas said that he aims to improve drug education and rehabilitation programs.

Douglas also responded to the common accusation that Republicans are not concerned with environmental issues. He asserted that his administration has actively promoted environmental stewardship. He specifically cited the "water action plan" that has been formulated to clean up many water resources in Vermont.



Vlad Lodoaba

Vermont Governor Jim Douglas '72 talks to attendees of the College Republican Federation Convention about his "plan for prosperity."

The last official speaker of the convention was Middlebury graduate Golnik '00. He outlined the Vermont Republican Party's strategy for success in upcoming elections.

The party has established a four-point plan in order to maintain its majority in the legislature: to enlarge party membership, to recruit volunteers, to identify possible voters and to get voters to the polls.

Getting voters to the polls is a major priority. Explained Golnik, "Democrats tend to win in close races because they have a strong 'get out to vote' campaign."

If the Vermont Republican Party does not succeed in maintaining its dominance in state politics, it will become difficult for Douglas to carry through his administrative priorities.

All of the guest speakers, however, emphasized the importance of political activism over loyalty to a particular party.

Although not overwhelmingly attended, the convention did draw students who seemed truly committed to the political process and the advancement of the Republican Party ideals in Vermont and at the national level.

Q&A: Inside the conservative camp

The Middlebury Campus got up close and personal with two prominent College Republicans, Tabby Connor '05 and Drew Pugsley '04.5, shortly after the Republican Convention ended. We found out what Connor, head of the Middlebury College Republicans, and Pugsley, Middlebury College Republicans member and State Chairman of the Vermont College Republican Federation and coordinator of last weekend's College Republicans' Convention, think about Middlebury, Democrats and political activism.

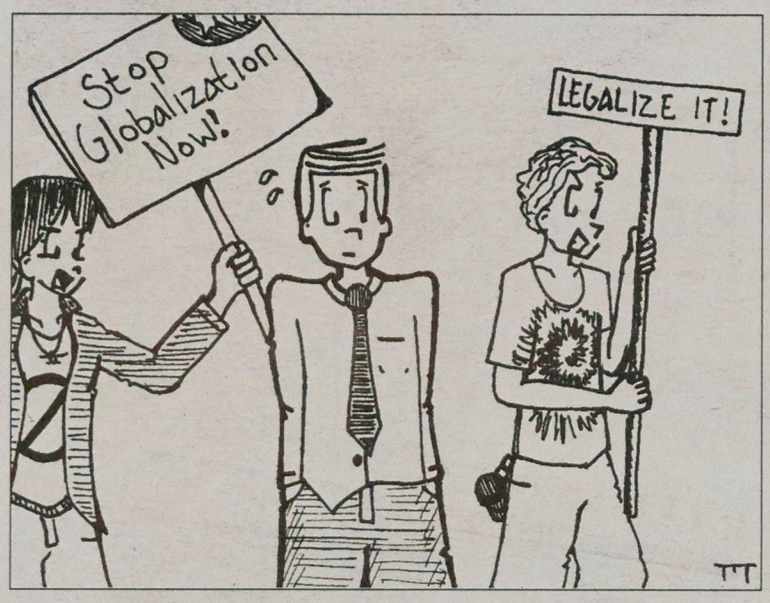
***The Campus*: What is it like being a Republican on the Middlebury campus?**

Connor: I've actually found it pretty easy compared to my high school experience. I've found everyone to be fairly tolerant and accepting, with very few exceptions. We've had a lot of support, with people asking us to get involved as Republicans to represent that point of view in debates [and] writing articles for *The Campus*. So I've enjoyed [the experience] a lot. We've been building our group, we've been getting a lot more Republicans on campus involved. So I feel pretty positive about it.

Pugsley: On the whole I'd say that everyone is pretty tolerant. In a democracy all points of view should be welcomed. We've been engaged numerous times by Democrats and it's been a well spirited relationship that we've had with them in general, as well as with the community.

***The Campus*: Why do you feel there is such a divide, or is there a divide, between Republicans and Democrats here on campus?**

Connor: I actually feel like we've worked pretty well with Democrats. Clearly there are ideological differences between our groups, but, as Drew said, we've had a pretty spirited relationship with them. From what we hear about other campuses we're much less divided than we could be.



***The Campus*: Do you think it would be good or bad for more students to have stronger political views and be more politically active on campus?**

Pugsley: Being more active politically can't be a bad thing. We understand that some people are Democrats and others are Republicans. It's encouraging to see anyone being active in the political system. I think that for some reason, even here in Vermont, some people are intimidated by the political process. They think it's really hard to get involved or they have to make some sort of breakthrough to be a relatively integral part of something. That's just not true. We're examples. It would be great if more people got involved. That's part of the mission of the club.

***The Campus*: Along the lines of the College Republicans' mission, can you talk more about specific goals you would like to achieve on campus?**

Connor: Our overarching goal is to create a forum on campus where Republican opinions can be heard. We do that through our bulletin board, through making the Republican students on campus feel comfortable expressing their opinions and having other Republicans with whom they can talk, and hosting events of our own. We just finished with the [Republican] Convention, we write articles for *The Campus*, we look for different ways in which we can get our opinion heard. We have other short-term goals, which involve making these events happen [and] increasing our membersip.

***The Campus*: Why are you a Republican?**

Pugsley: My personal motivation for [being part of the Republican Party] is not a kind of 'I can do this better than everyone else' mentality. I just have some sort of intrinsic motivation within me to do things for other people.

—LYNN GRAY, STAFF WRITER

Amnesty stands up for Juárez

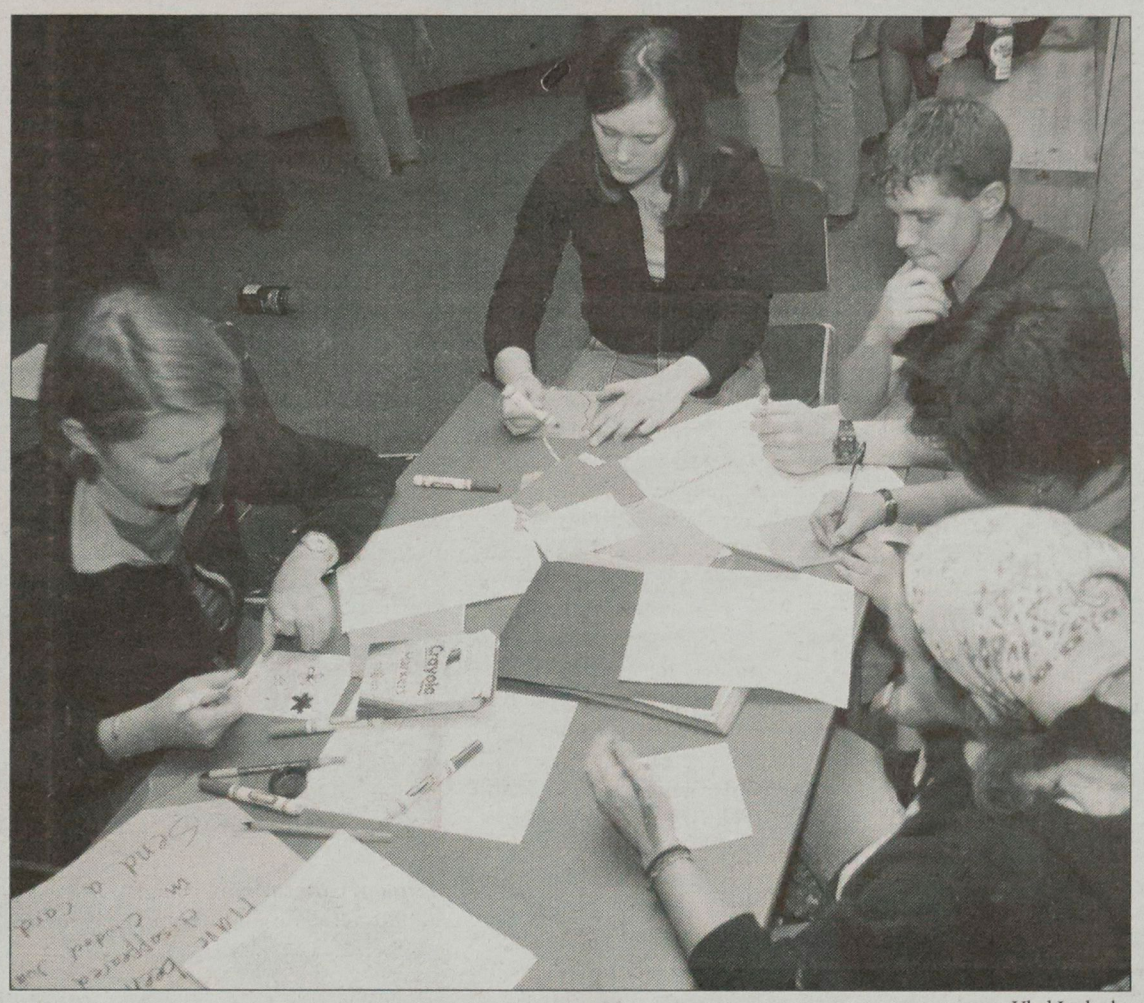
By Abigail Mitchell
Staff Writer

Ciudad Juárez, Mexico, is home to an appalling statistic. According to Amnesty International, since 1993 over 370 women have been murdered or have disappeared in the city, which lies just over the U.S.-Mexico border. Taking advantage of a job shortage in Juárez, many U.S. corporations have established factories, called *maquiladoras*, in which the wages are as little as four dollars per day. The availability of jobs has caused many eager workers to migrate to Juárez resulting in overpopulation and increased poverty.

Thirty percent of the women who have been killed were employees of a *maquiladora*. It is still unclear who is responsible for these deaths, but it appears that the Mexican government and police force, known to be plagued by corruption, have done little in the way of investigating or preventing this human rights atrocity.

The College's chapter of Amnesty International, headed by Julia Davidson '04.5 and Claire Johnson '05.5, held two events this past week as part of Amnesty International's annual week of Student Action. On April 1, they screened the film "Señorita Extraviada," which describes the situation in Juárez, includes various interviews and showcases two women who narrowly escaped death.

On Friday April 2, Amnesty held a benefit concert in Forest Basement entitled "Forget Them Not: A Concert to Benefit the Women of Juárez, Mexico." The night featured student musical performances by Stand-Up Robot and Anais Mitchell. In addition, a "Vagina Monologue" was also performed. It centered on the consequences of violence against women. Davidson notes, "I think that the music was a good way to lighten the mood a bit, since the topic is one that really causes people to think about the sanctity of human life and realize how lucky we are to be able to live our lives without the constant fear of death. In that respect, the Vagina Monologues performance reminded people why they were there, and how serious the issue of violence against women is all over the world, including Juárez."



Vlad Lodoaba

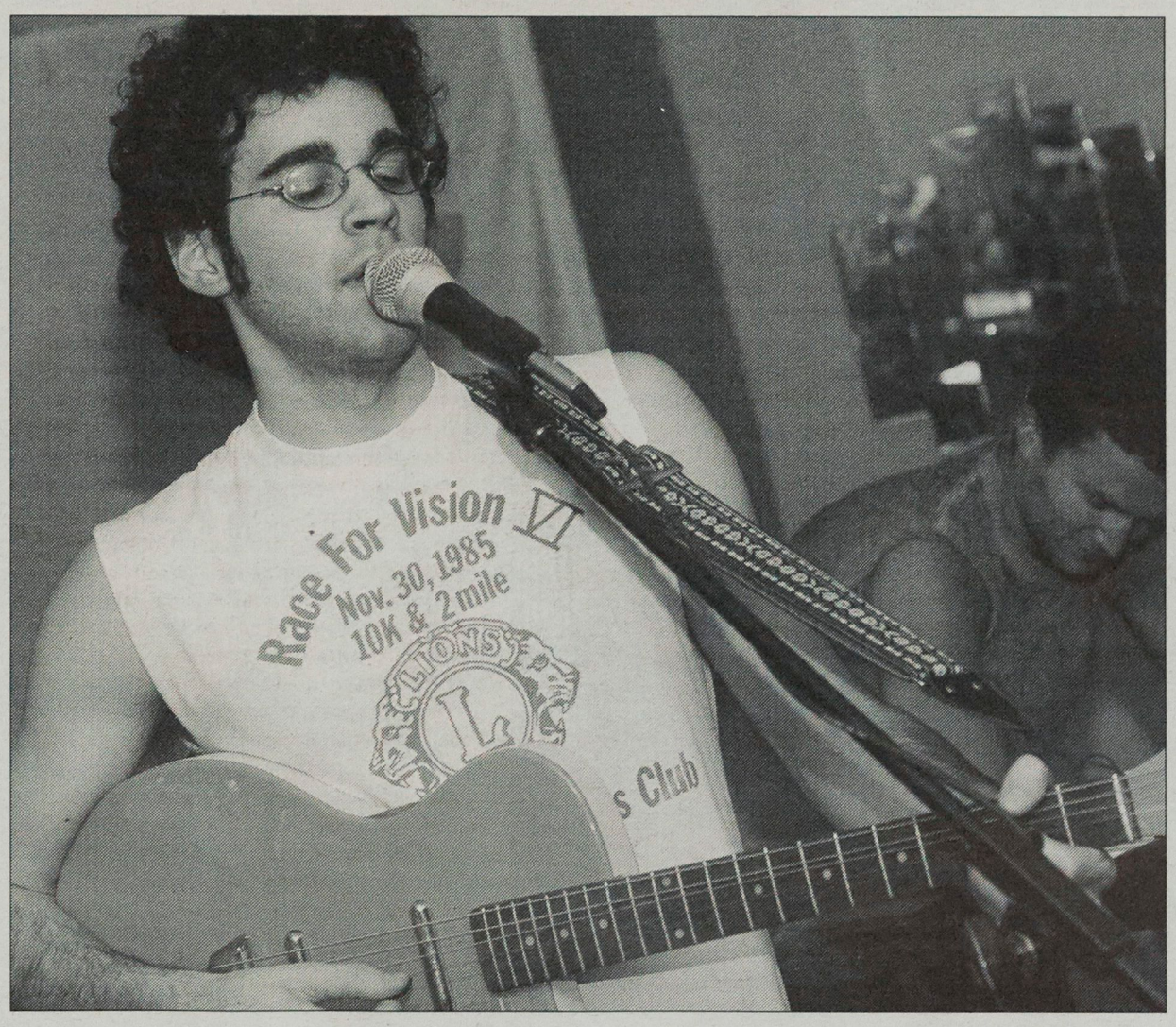
Students participate in a letter-writing campaign last Friday that let families of murder victims in Juárez, Mexico, know that Middlebury is aware of and concerned about their plight.

The night also featured a letter-writing campaign in which students were asked to write cards to the families of the victims letting them know that the students of Middlebury are aware and concerned. Students also signed a letter to the President of Mexico urging him to take immediate action. There were two letters addressed to the CEOs of Ford Motor Company and General Motors, both of which operate *maquiladoras* in Juárez. These letters asked the companies to provide greater security for their workers.

The proceeds of the benefit, totaling more than $350, will be donated to a Juárez-based organization working to pressure the Mexican government, raise awareness and communicate with the victims' families.

Amnesty has constructed 387 paper cranes to represent each victim in Juárez — cranes they plan to eventually send to the chief of police in Juárez. They also hung a banner in Ross, which listed all the victims' names. Davidson and Johnson feel that the events were successful at raising student consciousness. They hope that the letters and monetary donation will show the community of Juárez that people outside its vicinity are aware of the situation and eager to support the families in their struggle to end the violence.

When asked about her own reaction to the situation, Davidson declares, "Personally, the corruption and reluctance to take action on the part of the Mexican authorities disgusts me. After years of being involved in Amnesty and working on various human rights issues all around the world, I still am not able to understand how human beings are capable of simply standing by in the face of such pain and suffering, and can lack a basic compassion for humanity."



Mike Deni '04 performs with his band Stand-Up Robot on Friday in Forest Basement. The concert, which also featured Anais Mitchell, was entitled "Forget Them Not: A Concert to Benefit the Women of Juarez Mexico."

Photo by Vlad Lodoaba

POPROCKS

BY LANFORD BEARD

A year and a half ago, I sounded the death knell of pop while reviewing Justin Timberlake's "Justified" LP, giving him a few years of ready-made platinum hits. With a tour completed, no single in sight and Timberlake's forthcoming return to his *NSync roots later this year, I stand by my prognosis.

I will qualify it, however, by saying this — pop is still alive and kicking in the fiscal sense. Tasteless, celebrity-starved teenagers and 'tweens bop to stores everyday and pick up the latest and greatest TRL jams.

In this current Age of Guilty Pleasures we prostrate ourselves before celebrities and fads with subconscious irony as if we plan to tell our friends later that we bought a CD or a pair of pants just because they were ridiculous.

My question, though, is, *When exactly did we cease to require quality and innovation in favor of the all-purpose "entertainer" as the highest link on the fame food chain?*

I draw my argument specifically in regard to the scores of pop princesses who have inexplicably earned the distinction of being "triple threats" — Britney Spears, Jessica Simpson, Beyoncé, J.Lo and Hilary Duff, to name a few.

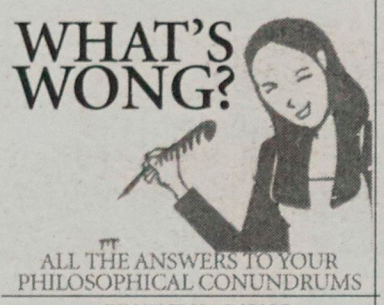
These starlets are icons in every sense, dictating what designers, diets and spiritual paths mainstream America should follow. It seems that nowadays we cannot bear to adore someone unless he or she can tell us exactly how to think, feel, smell and act.

Yet even while they sport urban couture, drive Mercedes SUVs around Rodeo Drive and slurp soy lattes from the Coffee Bean, these women are the H&M of celebrity — cheap, trendy and a bit regrettable.

Granted, this phenomenon is not new. The cultural juggernaut of Ms. Madonna Ciccone plummeted to earth in 1983 and has since made a name for herself as a "Boy Toy," dominatrix, Golden Globe-winning actress, yoga ace, Kabbalah mama and (most recently) best-selling children's author. What's more, the 45-year-old Material Girl's summer stadium spree, aptly titled "The Reinvention Tour," is almost completely sold out months in advance.

Translating Madonna's gimmicks into manageable, marketable, musical morsels for this generation's shortening attention span, Britney Spears has sped up the process, deeming each new album in her five-year career a new edition of her ongoing (and very public) biography. But what does it say about American culture when we prize reinvention over consistency, when we create our own American Idols in lieu of allowing them to rise from the ferment *au naturel*?

With a state like California having twice elected lame-brained, conservative actors to its helm, I think the resonance of the present distaste for verifiable talent and ingenuity could have bona fide ramifications in years to come as the pop infrastructure continues to crumble and corrode.



BY VENESSA WONG

Most Middlebury students share one great passion — a love of travel. According to the Office of Off-Campus Study, nearly 60 percent of the junior class studied in over 40 different countries this year, and approximately 10 percent of Middlebury's undergraduates come from 75 nations outside the U.S. There seems to be an epidemic of inquisitiveness among students of this tiny college that urges them to journey beyond familiar borders.

Alain de Botton wrote in "The Art of Travel" that few activities reveal as much about the human quest for happiness as traveling. It is a philosophical activity that involves reflections about questions beyond the practical. "[Our travels] express [...] an understanding about what life may be about, outside of the constraints of work and of the struggle for survival."

Being at home leaves us comfortably settled in our expectations, but "we [still] hunger in vain" for the exotic. Thus, when we go to new places, we expand our receptivity and indulge in the rich meaning in details. We may anchor emotions of love in the landscape, the art, the beauty of an area, or even "the way a person butters his or her bread."

During her junior year, Kristen Forsberg '04 studied in France and Cameroon. "My grandmother has been on all seven continents. I think [traveling] is in my genes." Although she's dreamt of going to Paris since the seventh grade, she never expected to travel to Cameroon. "I wanted to experience another culture that I knew nothing about, one that was completely different from my small town [and my] predominately white upbringing, which seemed sheltered and homogenous to me."

For Alexa Varriano '04, going to Florence, Italy, last fall was more about understanding her heritage and becoming a "citizen of the world." She describes her feeling there as "pure happiness." "It was the most peaceful yet exhilarating six months of my life. Although going to Italy was not exactly culture shock for me, it was a nice stepping-stone to future travels that I intend on pursuing."

David Bernay '04 spent his semester abroad in Mainz, Germany. In that time, he traveled within the country, and also to Sweden, England, Italy, Holland and Austria. "Seeing different places was awesome, but my biggest interest was creating a community in German. It's easy to feel comfortable at home, but when you go abroad and are forced to speak a different language, you feel a certain vulnerability. That's the struggle — building confidence."

De Botton calls our journeys "the midwives of thought." There is much beauty and contemplation to be found in traveling. "If we find poetry in the service station, if we are drawn to the airport or the train carriage, it is perhaps because these isolated places offer us a material setting for an alternative to the selfish ease, the habits and confinement of the ordinary rooted world."

Unraveling the twisted art of Prem Prakash

Students flock to the mats for relaxation and a workout

By Polly Johnson
Staff Writer

Tired of trying to find a guy in Ross Dining Hall? Try yoga class instead. Its focus on spiritual relaxation and physical control attracts men as well as women. As yoga's popularity continues to grow, men have come to realize that the disciple demands the same skill, patience and flexibility as many sports.

Prem Prakash, founder of the Green Mountain School of Yoga and yoga instructor at Middlebury, applauds the integration of men into yoga classes, noting that "this difference [between men and women] is honored in yoga." However, neither gender is regarded as inferior or superior, Prekash said.

Prakash became interested in yoga as a teenager, when he experienced a discovery of what his life had been like prior to birth. He trained with Baba Hari Dass, a yogi (somene who practices yoga) who has maintained strict silence for 52 years, only communicating by writing his thoughts on a small chalkboard.

In 1990, Prakash received permission to teach yoga and in 1991 founded the Green Mountain School of Yoga. He has written two books on yoga philosophy, "The Yoga of Spiritual Devotion" and "Three Pads of Devotion: Goddess, God, and Guru."

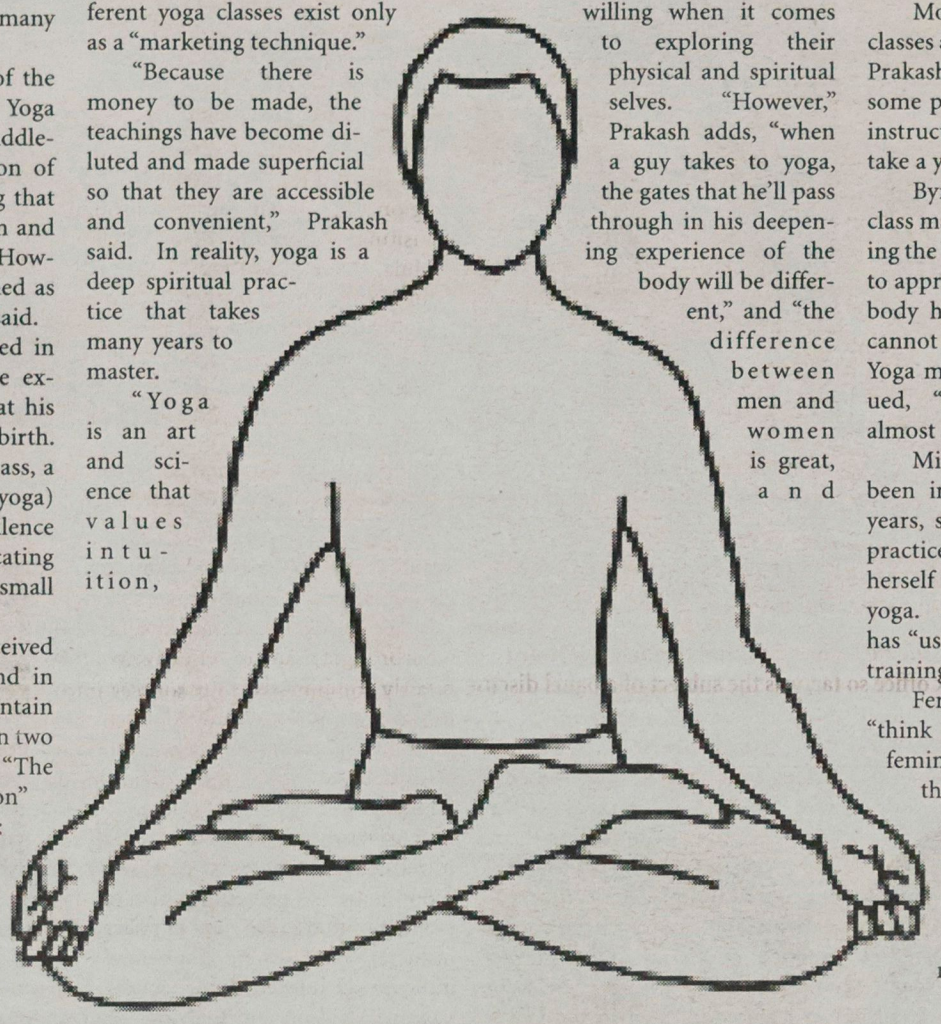
According to Prakash, it takes about 12 years of training to become a true teacher of yoga, and it is essential that a teacher have a sufficient knowledge of yoga philosophy, which entails knowing ayurveda, a holistic health science and Sanskrit, the language of the philosophy of yoga.

Prakash noted that most of the well-known yoga methods do not actually exist. Since yoga "has become a lucrative profession rather than a calling," the names for different yoga classes exist only as a "marketing technique."

"Because there is money to be made, the teachings have become diluted and made superficial so that they are accessible and convenient," Prakash said. In reality, yoga is a deep spiritual practice that takes many years to master.

"Yoga is an art and science that values intuition, which utilizes intuition, and which nurtures intuition," Prakash said. Although these features are often associated with femininity, more and more men have turned to yoga as a means to relax as well as to develop flexibility for other sports.

Prakash notes that yoga is "a practice in which one needs to deeply enter into one's body," and women are more daring and willing when it comes to exploring their physical and spiritual selves. "However," Prakash adds, "when a guy takes to yoga, the gates that he'll pass through in his deepening experience of the body will be different," and "the difference between men and women is great, and should be honored and respected."



Prakash is thrilled that more men are enrolling in his classes since in his experience most yoga classes tend to be 80 to 90 percent female, in part because "women constitutionally are more intuitive than guys." While that may be, it has not stopped guys — at Middlebury and all over the country — from discovering the joys of yoga.

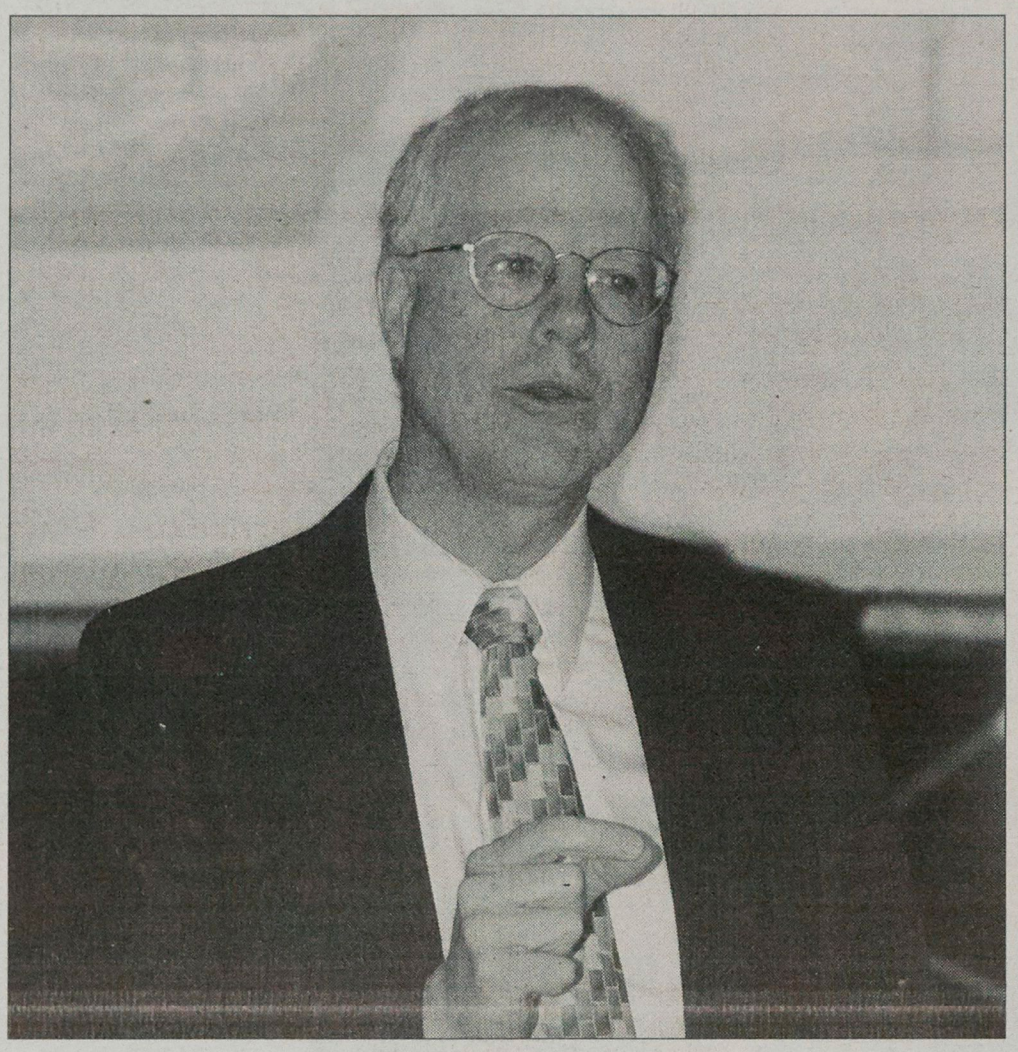
Morgan Byrne '05 took yoga classes at Middlebury after meeting Prakash last winter. At a troublesome point in life, Byrne took the instructor up on his suggestion to take a yoga class.

Byrne, a runner, said that the class made him "appreciate exercising the body and allowing the mind to appreciate the inner wisdom the body has but that that the mind cannot always fully understand. Yoga means union," Byrne continued, "so it's really beneficial for almost everything."

Michael Ferrier '07, who has been involved in yoga for many years, said that he discovered the practice because his mother put herself through college by teaching yoga. Since getting involved, he has "used yoga constantly as cross training for tennis."

Ferrier said that he does not "think that yoga makes a guy effeminate." And what do girls think? A first year Feb said, "I have the same respect for boys who do yoga as I do for boys who do ballet — anyone who is that flexible but still buff gets my vote."

ISO BENEFIT: AN OUTPOURING OF CASH, SUPPORT



On April 3, the International Students Organization (ISO) sponsored a formal charity dinner, followed by a dance, to benefit Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders) USA at McCullough Social Space. The event, attended by approximately 80 people, raised over $1,000 in contributions. The dinner featured a talk by William Conk (pictured at left), a professor from University of New Hampshire and a member of the MSF-USA board of directors, a brief presentation by Price Massey '06 and Micah Gurard-Levin '07 of Middlebury's Operation Smile, live performances by Samuel Stevenson '05, Sara Stranovsky '05 and Mark Barber '06 and dance music by Dan Russell '04. Sumaya Huque '06, ISO President, described the event as a "great success, especially because it was the first time [ISO organized a charity event]." Joyce Man '06, chair of the ISO show and one of the primary organizers of the ISO-MSF dinner, echoed Huque, saying, "The handsome $1,002 [ISO raised] looks even better when you consider that many people donated even though they could not come to the event [...] The turnout was more than we expected." The most memorable aspect of the dinner, according to Huque and Man, was the effort contributed by students. "The best part about that night was that we had a lot of volunteers who worked for free," said Huque. "I was happy with the outcome, but I was even happier with the process," Man reiterated. "[We had] so many volunteers, I had to turn people away."

— AGLAYA GLEBOVA, ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

Courtesy

"The Passion of the Christ," the Mel Gibson vehicle that has raked in a cool $315 million at the box office so far, was the subject of a panel discussion on Sunday afternoon.

Mel Gibson's 'Passion' resurrects religious debate

By Amanda Goodwin
Staff Writer

We are said to be living in a "Christ-haunted culture," a notion supported by one of the year's biggest cinematic events, the release and spectacular popularity of Mel Gibson's "The Passion of the Christ." Sunday afternoon, the Middlebury community gathered to partake in a panel presentation entitled "Film, Text, and Context: Reading Gibson's 'Passion.'"

The film, which has raked in over $315 million and become the highest grossing independently funded, foreign, religious-themed and R-rated film yet, has proven a source of contention and controversy. The panel brought together professors of various disciplines — Chair of the Religion Department Larry Yarbrough, Visiting Lecturer in Italian Stefano Mula, Visiting Assistant in Art History Nina Rowe, Instructor of Religion Suleiman Mourad and Diane Tomkinson, a theologian specializing in medieval Christianity.

Yarbrough placed "The Passion of the Christ" into a religious context by explaining the differences and tonal distinctions between the four gospels — Matthew, Mark, Luke and John — that form the film's foundation. The inherent challenge that Gibson faced, according to Yarbrough, was to effectively and fairly combine the four sources into one story. Yarbrough also placed the film's anti-Semitic tendencies into context by emphasizing that one's perception depends on how one treats Gibson's sources. He raised the counterargument that Matthew and John, the supposed authors of the most anti-Semitic gospels, considered themselves Jews.

Mula discussed the evolution of perceptions of the crucifixion. He explained that before 1100 A.D., the first Christian millennium, the Cross was a powerful symbol, but the public had very little interest in Christ's humanity and sufferings. This changed, said Mula, when Anselm of Canterbury and Ekbert of Schönau placed more importance on the humanity of Christ and the Jews' supposed role in his crucifixion. The prophet Isaiah's works contain particularly graphic depictions that led 12th Century theological writer Peter Comestor to later label Christ the "man in red."

Rowe followed with a visual presentation that traced the similarities between the film's still images and those of distinguished, predominantly 15th century paintings. In Gibson's book, which contains still images and quotations from the gospels, he prefaces that he instructed his cinematographer to make the film look like a work by Caravaggio. "Passion" evinces a pronounced contrast between dark and light. Deep shadows abound and minimal importance is placed on background imagery.

Scenes from the film, as demonstrated by Rowe, are eerily similar to works by Rembrandt and Grunwald. Prevalent themes include "Christ as the man of sorrows," in which he is depicted as a victim, half dead and half alive, and "instruments of the passions," a visual representation of how Christ was tortured, by lacerations, a sponge, vinegar and a crown of thorns. Rowe further commented on the artists' representation of male Jews as nefarious, underscoring their money bags, curved noses and beady eyes.

Female Jews, in contrast, were presented in a more positive light, as sensitive, beautiful, compassionate and easily malleable. In fact, for his film, Gibson cast Italian movie stars in the roles of Jewish women. Tomkinson shed light on Gibson's utilization of biblical texts. She explained that two main areas of the film's controversy concern how the biblical texts were combined, which is the root of a vast diversity of interpretation within the Christian community, and what non-biblical sources were employed. Notable non-biblical sources used were the visions of the late eighteenth century Catholic mystic, Anne Catherine Emerick, and the Stations of the Cross, a timeline of the final hours of Christ's life, combining both biblical and non-biblical material.

By using these non-biblical sources, Tomkinson argued, it is more difficult to understand Christ's death due to a neglect of his life.

Mourad concluded with an Islamic interpretation of the film and its subject material. Mourad declared that Muslims do not recognize the crucifixion — Islam instead believes that once danger approached, God removed Jesus from earth. He said that "The Passion of the Christ" proves an exception to the general rule that bans films visually representing the prophets from theaters in the Arab world. Consequently, Mourad discussed the propensity of certain Muslims to use the film to their advantage, in an attempt to equate their suffering to the suffering of Jesus, further fueling political hatred and bias, and preventing healing between Arabs, especially Palestinians, and Jews.

"I thought it was very interesting to hear different, scholarly opinions from a wide variety of perspectives," said Bill Army '07.5. "Prior to the discussion, I was wary of seeing the movie, and after the discussion, it made me curious. In our society, which has a wide variety of world views and moral codes, I think it is interesting to see how we are reacting to Mel Gibson's movie, for better or for worse."

Passionate Remarks
Students react to the film

Nelsie Castillo '04
"I've seen a lot of movies about Christ but none of them have been that violent."

May Boeve '06.5
"The gruesome spectacle left me feeling devoid of a greater understanding of the Passion's meaning and implications."

Esther Ross '04
"Pontius Pilot is not as nice in the Bible as he is portrayed in the movie. I was expecting something along the lines of 'Jesus Christ Superstar' — I was totally shocked."

Bernadette Gunn '04
"Christ seemed barely a person, let alone a godly [one]. As for the production quality, I admired Gibson's ability to get strong reactions out of the audience. I wanted to cry — and vomit."

Karl Whittington '04
"[The film] was just another example of Gibson's obsession with pain — portrayed in all his movies. As a result he loses sight of the Christian message. Much of the violence served no purpose."

WINNERS & LOSERS

What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture? *The Campus* gives its weekly report.

SAVINGS AND TIME	DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME
IRONICALLY, DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME HAS GRANTED NO MORE OF EITHER — REMINDING US WE'RE STILL COLLEGE STUDENTS.	LAST SATURDAY NIGHT — SAME AMOUNT OF TIME SPENT VOMITING, ONE LESS HOUR TO SLEEP IT OFF.
SEAGULLS	THE SWAN
NOT ONLY DO THESE SCAVENGERS REMIND US SPRING IS HERE — THEY ALSO EAT THE MANURE ON MCCULLOUGH LAWN.	SOCIETY'S NEW SICKEST PLEASURE — A REALITY SHOW OFFERING THE INSECURE FREE PLASTIC SURGERY!
SGA DISH SYSTEM	SCCOCC RACE
LET'S GIVE THOSE TINY GLASS CUPS THE FAREWELL TOUR THEY DESERVE — WITH SLEDGEHAMMERS	RACE REMAINS CLOSE WITH ONLY ONE CANDIDATE

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THE ART OF DR. SEUSS MAKES CENTENNIAL TOUR

Medeiros stages daring dichotomy

By Chris Grosso
Arts Editor

A piano, a beach and two murders. An adolescent girl. A doctor. A transistor. Death. Sex. Antagnostic male competition.

It sounds like a piece of theatrical surrealism. Combining these subjects and ideas into a logical order may seem like an irrational and illogical task. Visiting Instructor in Theater Claudio Medeiros' double feature production of "Waltz No. 6" and "Never Swim Alone" did just that in a dynamic and

The pair of one-act plays pushed the boundaries of experimental theater and stretched the imaginations of its viewers.

emotionally dense manner.

Performed in the Center for Arts' Seeler Studio last weekend, the pair of one-act plays pushed the boundaries of experimental theater and stretched the imaginations of its viewers.

Thought provoking, unconventional and highly theatrical, "Waltz No. 6" and "Never Swim Alone" investigated the universal issues of gender, identity and life versus death in very different ways. The first piece was tragic while the second was comical and confrontational.

The first play, "Waltz No. 6," delved into the reaction of an adolescent girl, Sonia, to the events that led to her death. Based on a 1950s story by the Brazilian playwright Nelson Rodrigues, the play investigates the inner turmoil that pervades the girl's psyche.

Set in a dream world with no temporal points of reference anchoring it to reality, Sonia responds to her maturing body, early sexual impulses and desires, societal expectations and uncertain future. The script, grounded in psychological and mythological allusions, was very ambiguous.

Sonia's disrupted mental state was brought to life by Eliza Hulme '05, Liz Myers '04, Becky Martin '04.5 and Annabelle Cazes '06. Their commanding deliveries left the audience wondering and sympathizing — why was this girl punished so severely?

The grace of Sonia's character was embodied in Myers' ballet-like movements while Hulme captured her character's weakness with her subtle motions. Martin executed the more violent gestures. Their recitations were impeccable and the transitions from fleeting moments of ecstasy to isolated periods of abandonment and loneliness were persuasive.

Heavily emotional and frenetic, the play offered an obscure glimpse into a young girl's ill-fated life. The abstraction inherent in the experimental work resulted in initial lack of clarity, which slowly abated after the opening. Medeiros instilled the girl with a kind of schizophrenia using a quartet of actresses.

The title of the play is derived from the foreboding song that serves as the background music to the madness and drama — "Waltz No. 6." Representing the fourth personification of Sonia, Cazes played the waltz flawlessly throughout the 50-minute show. The repetition and staccato quality of the arrangement enhanced the emotional instability overwhelming the girl.

The director's choices of dance, performance and words reflected a profound sensibility in interpreting the script.

The second performance, "Never Swim Alone," occured on a beach, where a woman mediated the confrontation between two male friends. Reminiscent of punch-for-punch boxers, the two males voiced criticism-for-criticism against each other over a series of 11 rounds.

The actors — Lucas Kavner '07 as Frank, Matthew Johnstone '07 as Bill — were poised and tight in their deliveries. Since the characterizations were not complex, the success of the piece depended on the actors' dialogues, which consistently aroused laugher from the audience.

Kavner's presentation demonstrated an impressive stage confidence, which was matched by his co-star Johnstone. The dialogues drifted in-and-out of mechanical vocalizations and witty commentaries. Many of the speeches were delivered in unison or counterpoint, and Kavner and Johnston were almost perfectly in synch.

The actors' constant movement kept the audience engaged and underscored the tension and increasing frustration between the two men and the referee (Myers). This movement embodied the work's verbal energy and rhythm.

Medeiros' decision to emphasize movement established an integral link between the plays. The scripts and gestures were distinctly rhythmic. The thematic connection was the insinuation of murder.

Each play suggested a murder, daring the audience to uncover the truth. The inconclusive closing moments left the audience with a satisfying ignorance. The ambiguity and lack of a conclusion provoked thought and examination of the intense dialogues.

Medeiros' production was a psychologically arousing experience. Sonia's struggle in "Waltz No. 6" was reminiscent of a Shakespearean monologue — think Lady Macbeth — in its articulation, mythological references and profundity.

The tension in "Never Swim Alone" was palpable and the male competition was humorously typical.

Taken together the production was sometimes heavy to mentally digest, but the "strange bedfellows" did speak to each other, combining to create a complex who-done-it kind of feeling. Medeiros' experiment worked.

Vlad Lodoaba

Eliza Hulme '05, Liz Myers '04 and Becky Martin '04.5 portray the conflicting personalites of Sonia, the central figure in last weekend's production of "Waltz No. 6."

ACTING FRENCH

Students of French will enact a number of short plays in the Chateau Grand Salon on the evening of Friday, April 9. Professor Charles Nunley, the director of the eight short plays being compiled for this show, recalled the prolific theatrical activity of the French Deptartment in the 1970s. He has organized various theatrical events in recent years in an attempt to resurrect an appreciation for Francophone theatre. Nunley claimed that it was relatively easy to get students to act in French. Acting, he said, is a constant process of undermining one's identity to become someone else. Performing in one's mother tongue might make the actors acutely aware of this process of identity change, whereas performing in another language obscures thE process.

Photo by Vlad Lodoaba

Triple feature takes over ZOO

By Kelsey Smith
Staff Writer

How would you refer to a collection of unrelated scenes that touch on topics ranging from existentialist crises to the morality of a lie? You could just play it safe and call it a montage or, alternately, choose to confuse the prospective audience a little bit more by naming it "Zox, Stoks, and One Smoking Turk." A theatrical program with just such a name was performed a total of five times in the Hepburn Zoo from April 1 to April 3. The show was inspired by Andrew Zox'05, John Stokvis '05 and Seda Savas '05.

The evening began with "The Fan," a monologue from "Pounding Nails into the Floor with my Forehead" by Eric Bogosian. The piece was performed and directed by John Stokvis, who deserves credit for carrying on an entire conversation with an absent rock star. Stokvis succeeded in his portrayal of a needy, obsessive, borderline psychotic fan. Despite his idiosyncrasies, he managed to win the audience to his side.

"Long Ago and Far Away" by David Ives followed Laura and Gus, played by Rachel Dunlap '06 and Dan Pruksarnukul '04, a young Manhattan couple in the process of moving to a better apartment. Though at first Laura seemed as excited about the move as Gus, she slowly revealed her general unhappiness. The audience was left wondering why she and Gus were together at all.

The crisis seemed to have been brought on by an article she read in the paper about a woman who recently disappeared in the neighborhood.

Dunlap and Pruksarnukul gave credible performances, their conversation flowed easily, and the moments of frustration and anger on the part of Pruksarnukul were justified. Evan Dumouchel '06.5 played Jack, Laura's link between the past and the present. During the scene Jack related his past experiences in the apartment out of which Laura and Gus were currently moving.

Through his stories, Laura was transported back in time and faced with the prospect of starting a new life without her husband. She found herself in the same apartment a number of years earlier talking to a landlady (Rebecca Kanengiser '05.5) about renting for herself alone. Deciding to take the apartment, she stated that she could be "very happy here" — in other words, very happy without her husband.

"Tape" by Jose Rivera explored what happens to our lies after we die. Ben Davis '07 played a recently deceased person forced to listen to 10,000 boxes of his lies recorded on audiocassette tapes by an attendant, played by Lucy Faust '07. Davis successfully communicated the horror of the situation. He was initially compliant and almost eager to get started, yet, when he was told how many tapes he would have to endure, he erupted in a nervous rage.

The evening began with "The Fan," a monologue from "Pounding Nails Into the Floor with my Forehead"

Faust, the administrator of the torture, resembled a robot, so methodical and unrelenting was she. Towards the end of the piece, she added depth to her character by conveying disgust for the people she encounters in her work.

"A Moment Play" was the most conceptual piece and subsequently the most open to interpretation. It began at a bus stop where Joe (Zach Maxwell '07), who has missed his bus, meets Sandra (Lisa Zaval '07). Greta (Myra Palermo '07) looked on while reading a newspaper and remained a continual presense on stage.

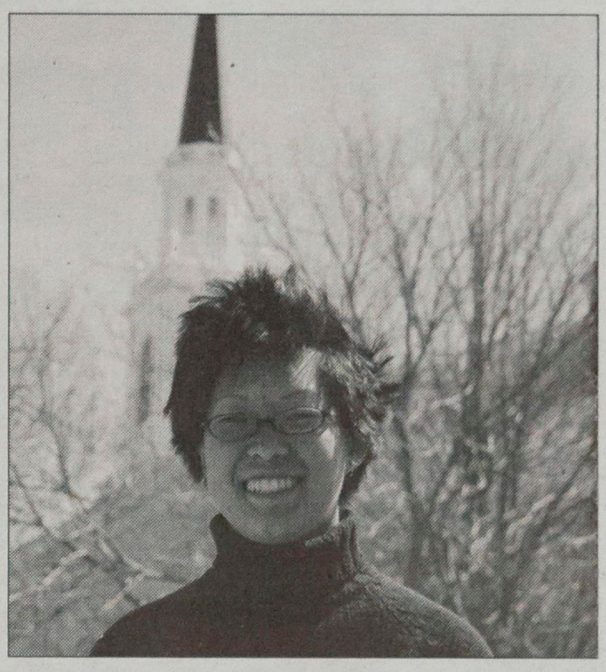
What followed was, as the title suggests, a series of haphazardly thrown together moments between the three characters through various points in history as well as people's lives. The chemistry between Zaval and Maxwell provided for a convincing conversation, and Palermo maintained the right amount of mystery as to her exact role in the play.

"Duet for Bear and Dog" by Sybil Rosen marked the comic high point of the evening. Vinson Cunningham '06 was hilarious as a lapdog that chased a bear (Myra Palermo '07) up a tree to prove that he was just as ferocious as larger breeds. Though it seemed like a relatively simple piece at first, the dialogue evolved, pitting the view of a highly domesticated pet against a wild animal — a wild animal tired of eating from the garbage, wishing instead to be inside eating cashews from an owner's hand instead.

In the end the dog's owner (Ekaterina Nikolova '04) called animal control. The bear, which we learn was pregnant, was tranquilized before being returned to the woods. The piece finished with Palermo's recounting the birth of her bear cubs. Her relation was so heartfelt that the audience could not but feel that she had become satisfied with her place in the wild.

OFFAIR

WITH MEGAN OSTERHOUT



Soda folk host swills alittle fecta

NAME? Megan Osterhout.

NAME OF YOUR SHOW? Soda Folk.

SHOW'S TIME-SLOT? Thursday mornings, 9:00 – 10:30.

DESCRIBE THE TYPE OF MUSIC THAT YOU PLAY. I play a mix of contemporary folk, singer/songwriter stuff, bluegrass, folk-rock, with the occasional Molly Hatchet song thrown in there to mix it up, you know. Everyone likes a good mullet.

WHY DO YOU PLAY THE MUSIC YOU DO? I like music, and I like sharing.

WHAT THREE ALBUMS/ARTISTS ARE IN YOUR CD PLAYER RIGHT NOW? The Decembrists' "Her Majesty the Decembrists," Gillian Welch's "Time (The Revelator)" and Pieta Brown's self titled album.

WHAT BOOK IS ON YOUR BEDSIDE TABLE RIGHT NOW? "Plainsong" by Kent Haruf and "Cathedral" by Raymond Carver.

BEST ALBUM OF ALL TIME? Hmm ... Counting Crows' "Recovering the Satellites"?

IF YOU COULD RESURRECT ANY FAMOUS DEAD PERSON AND HAVE LUNCH WITH HIM/HER, WHO WOULD IT BE? Rick Chauncy, lead singer for the old-school band Old Guard.

VINYL, CASSETTE, CD, OR MP3? If I were cooler, I'd say vinyl. But I have to go with CD.

IF YOU COULD HAVE ANY SUPERPOWER, WHAT WOULD IT BE? Well, I'm already indestructable, so I guess I'd like to fly.

FAVORITE CURSE-WORD? Poop.

CAFFEINATED SUBSTANCE OF CHOICE? India spice tea.

PROCTOR, ROSS, OR FREEMAN? PROCTOR!

FAVORITE VIRTUE? Procrastination to do fun things.

FAVORITE VICE? Procrastination to do fun things.

WHAT ARE YOU MOST KNOWN FOR? I play Frisbee. CUP-O-SAUR-US!

WHAT QUOTE DO YOU LIVE BY? "Don't change. Can I meetchu?"

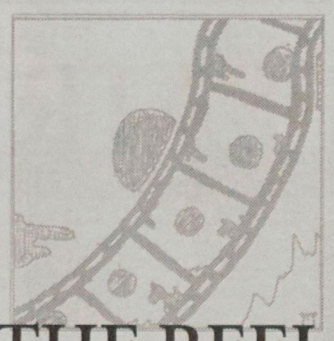
DO YOU SUFFER FROM ANY PHOBIAS? Mmm, flatlands kind of psyche me out.

MOST TREASURED POSSESSION? Family and friends. Awwww...

WHICH WORD OR PHRASE DO YOU MOST OVERUSE? Fecta or swill.

IN TEN YEARS, YOU WILL BE? Someplace with a nice big garden, some dogs and some mountains.

— ERIKA MERCER, ARTS EDITOR



THE REEL CRITIC

BY AARON STRUMWASSER

MOVIE | HELLBOY (2004)
DIRECTOR | GUILLERMO DEL TORO
STARRING | RON PERLMAN AND SELMA BLAIR

If the most interesting comic book heroes are unenviable, Hellboy is a godsend. Conjured by Nazis, he looks like a mini-Satan (thanks to computer-generated graphics). So the allied forces that find Hellboy plan to kill him immediately. No Nuremberg for Hellboy. His looks reveal enough.

But Hellboy is still young, still convertible. To put Hellboy at ease, a doctor gives him a Baby Ruth. Hellboy eats it with relish, and we witness the beginning of a remarkable friendship. If only feeding zoo animals were this easy.

Fast-forward a few decades. Hellboy has grown into a superhero. On behalf of humanity, he fights the creatures from hell that grew up without ever tasting a Baby Ruth.

Hellboy is good, in other words, because someone showed him mercy. And for that he is truly interesting, despite the product placement — Red Bull and PowerBar are also mentioned.

When his compassionate doctor gives him a human partner, Hellboy's life again changes drastically.

It seems Hellboy would have preferred another Baby Ruth, because he and his hotshot partner love the same woman.

But Hellboy can't kill him because, a day or two into his career, he saves Hellboy's life. Again, Hellboy seems to think, "one of these damned humans has kept me alive."

The story, however, is absurd, perhaps because "Hellboy" is adapted from a comic book. Although I haven't read the comic book, I can say with confidence that the movie is too faithful to its source.

Plotting aside, "Hellboy" is too cartoon-like. We see a hell of a lot of fake fire, and the bad guys are hardly guys at all.

They're super-sized crustaceans. (To quote a friend: "He needs to fight something his own size.")

Not all of the movie's conflicts are mismatches. Hellboy's love interest, Liz Sherman (played to perfection by Selma Blair), has trouble controlling her superpower, which stems from her typically human inner conflict. I won't give away what it is, because the filmmakers don't give it away, either.

Almost everything else, though, explodes in front of our faces. Of course, one cannot expect subtlety from a movie called "Hellboy."

But does it have to be on par with a Pantera concert? (More than once I caught myself reaching for an imaginary volume-adjuster on my armrest).

Audiences under 10 years old might believe every second of "Hellboy," but their parents will cringe, knowing its action sequences overshadow the good-versus-evil theme.

If you fall between these age groups, ask yourself whether you enjoy movies that do the imagining for you or that let you imagine, because "Hellboy" is uncompromising.

Music videos: not life videos

Christopher Walken stars in director Spike Jonze's music video for Fat Boy Slim's "Weapon of Choice."

arts memo

I dislike videos such as the one that accompanies Three Days Grace's "I Hate Everything About You," in which the camera moves back and forth between cuts of the band tearing their axes apart, to an emotionally drained and devastated 17 year-old mouthing the lyrics of the chorus, moving his head and body ever so slightly because the music and the message behind the words "I hate everything about you" works on *so* many levels that he can't help but contextualize his existence in terms of a rejection of a rejection. Please.

Don't get me wrong — angst-ridden teen punk will never fade from the music scene. There's just too much wrong with this society for the youth of our nation not to identify with such a deconstructionist, denial-fueled song.

Plenty of rockers adopt just such a stance because it gives them an immediate link to the youth, a fan base with ever-increasing world experience, not to mention spending power. Perhaps self-deprecating, negationalist lyricism provides an outlet for the youth. After they hear songs and see videos like this through all the time on popular outlets like radio and MTV.

While all of this and more is true about both the music industry and American society in general, the fact remains that the music video has the rare opportunity to influence large numbers of people across cultural, linguistic and economic boundaries.

It is because of this that music videos should not be treated with the sort of artistic disrespect that many popular artists have made common practice. Britney Spears' music videos, for the most part, serve absolutely no intellectual or emotional purpose. They exist as mindless entertainment.

This is not to downplay the importance of aesthetic appeal — it is indeed a necessary aspect of the music industry and, consequently, music videos in general.

The target audience and society in general should be able to make choices for themselves about the music video rather than being forced to a particular view presented by a member of said target audience "totally feeling" the lyrics and applying it directly to his or her own life experience.

The practice of forcing the band's lyrics and message down the viewer's throats has become hackeneyed. Hence the youth mouthing the chorus' words, as if the phrase "I hate everything about you" wasn't self-explanatory to the point of banality. Three Days Grace, give your viewers some credit.

Subtlety is something completely lost on most of American society. Americans don't like their rock to be mixed with different points of view. For the most part, we don't like intellectually indirect humor, not to mention artistic sarcasm.

We like our rock, indeed our music in general, to make a clear, simplified statement regarding an issue that applies to us. This is why groups like Air, The Darkness, Dead Kennedy's and J-Live will never be played on mainstream radio or accepted into the American layman's musical canon.

Furthermore, anti-establishment-oriented views are utterly rejected, fomenting what many here in the United States have come to recognize as "unpatriotic" thought, due in large part to the actions of our government over the last four years.

Americans like to hear about their nation-state kicking ass from every possible media outlet — they want to hear about U.S. troops taking lots of prisoners in Iraq, they want to hear about Muslims being hounded in the Middle East as retribution for 9/11. While all of the aforementioned bands are doomed to relative obscurity in America, Kings of Leon, with their blatant, over-the-top backcountry Americanism, might be able to make a name for themselves yet.

Country music, what some view as the repository of American standards and desires, is delivered to the American ear replete with messages like that of Toby Keith's hit "Courtesy of the Red White and Blue" — "This big dog will fight when you rattle his cage [...] We'll stick a boot up your ass, it's the American way."

September 11 was a defining moment for every American. In no way should the actions of those who promulgated it be condoned, but neither should reciprocal aggression be exacted. Truly, an eye for an eye leaves the whole world blind. Keith's lyrics are a tragically apt, reactionary representation of our country in the 21st century, representative of the power and influence that popular media outlets wield in contemporary society.

Though I have focused on many negative aspects of the music video and the music industry in general, I must state that I harbor a great affection for the art form. The negative possibilities represented by the music video are countered by a tremendous upside.

There are many examples of ingenious, intellectually and emotionally stimulating and visually challenging offerings that represent true paradigm shifts in the world of the music video.

Videos for Weezer's song "Buddy Holly," the Beastie Boy's "Sabotage," Pharcyde's "Drop," Fatboy Slim's "Praise You" and "Weapon of Choice" and Wax's "California" are all intrinsically different, individually beautiful representations of the medium's almost unrealized abilities. If these videos are not evidence enough, the fact that they all originate from the same producer's mind proves that the potential for music video greatness is out there. Spike Jonze for president in 2004.

Music videos and the various popular media that serve to convey them, form a true dialectical paradox regarding the audiences that they affect. They have the ability to both positively and negatively affect viewers, providing a basis for both constructive and destructive actions and thought processes.

Within in this context, MTV, VH1 and individual artists and groups have the power to reinforce the message they wish to convey with their music, while the viewer wields the overarching ability to evaluate, accept or deny the music video's intended purpose or message. Music videos are not accurate representations of the social interstices, pressures, methodologies or framework of everyday life. We must not fall victim to the illusion that they are.

As with so many other forms of popular entertainment, it is time for the consumer to realize that they, not hegemonic forces in the industry, are in charge of not only what they as individuals consume but what is produced in the first place.

— HANS MANZKE, STAFF WRITER

Courtesy

Toby Keith paints a picture of contemporary American life.

Cabaret no 'trouble' for voice students

By Chris Grosso
Arts Editor

"Give our regards to old Broadway / And say that we'll be there ere long." That's exactly what the 23 vocalists of the 11th annual spring cabaret "We've Got Trouble!" did on Saturday, April 3 in the Center for the Arts Concert Hall. In an energetic and impressive series of 42nd Street performances, Middlebury students crooned and danced an evening's worth of Broadway classics.

Produced by Music Department faculty members Carol Christensen and Beth Thompson Kaiser, the cabaret displayed the myriad talents of Middlebury College vocalists. Several members of the company performed solos from the soundtracks of famous theater shows. The featured pieces of the night were tunes from "The Music Man" and "Urinetown."

Adam Beard '06 and Nora Williams '06 enthusiastically hosted the cabaret. The endurance award, however, goes to Tom Cleary, for his marathon piano playing. Cleary, known for this work in the Broadway genre, accompanied each and every singer at the piano.

The program commenced with a rendition of "The Wells Fargo Wagon" from "The Music Man." A few Broadway selections followed and then more of Meredith Wilson's "The Music Man." The singers were completely engaged and very excited to perform, For her solo performance, Jenna Boyle '06 peformed "I Dreamed a Dream" from the always popular "Les Miserables." Boyle commented, "Les Mis is one of my favorite shows, I've been listening to the music ever since I was a little girl. That song in particular has always been a favorite, so it was really exciting for me to be able to perform it up on stage." Likewise, Laura Rockefeller '04 really enjoyed performing "Pick a Little Talk a Little." She explains, "I got to say one of my favorite lines EVER, 'She made brazen overtures.'"

Vlad Lodoaba

Nora Williams '06 yields a look of disapproval to Sarah Pieplow '04 during last weekend's 11th spring cabaret "We've Got Trouble."

Following the intermission, the cast composed a rendition of the highly acclaimed "Urinetown." Comical and interactive, the singers got a kick out of participating in Mark Hollman and Greg Kotis' production, which just finished its two-year run on Broadway. Kevin Velez '07 said, "'Urinetown' was the most enjoyable act to perform. The music and choreography was more creative and humorous than your typical Broadway musical. I particularly enjoyed being Officer Lockstock because I could interact with the audience more than your typical Broadway character gets to do." "Urinetown" encourages the audience to laugh at the absurdity of the situation: a corrupt corporation takes advantage of its citizens by charging for toilet use to the point where many can no longer afford it and are dealt with fatally by a trip to Urinetown. A definite crowd pleaser was "The Cop Song." Rockefeller was amused —"I got to march through the audience with a flashlight, wearing all black and feeling very cop-like and cool (even if I actually looked like a complete fool!)."

The song and dance celebration livened the atmosphere at the CFA and brought a little of the glitz, glam and glory of New York City to Middlebury for the weekend. The cast delighted the audience with their serenading and amusing antics.

LITERARY PICKS

BY EDWARD PICKERING

TITLE
THE GOD OF SMALL THINGS
AUTHOR
ARUNDHATI ROY
PUBLICATION DATE
1997

Arundhati Roy has made only one foray into the realm of fiction. In 1997 Roy, who was then unknown, published "The God of Small Things," an imaginative and technical tour de force. The novel, which describes a family in India, earned Roy the coveted Booker Prize and international celebrity. Yet she has stubbornly refused to follow her initial success with an encore, a decision both puzzling and disappointing.

"The God of Small Things," set in Kerala, India, during the 1960s, takes as its topic an eccentric family. The family drama unfolds against a complex social and political backdrop. At the time communism was extending its influence through the region and running up against the age-old caste system. The story begins with the death of Sophie Mol, cousin to the novel's protagonists, Rahel and her fraternal twin brother, Estha. Sopie Mol has just arrived from England with her English mother, ex-wife of Rahel and Estha's maternal uncle, Chacko, a former Rhodes scholar and current pickle company baron. Rahel and Estha have little time to get acquainted with Sophie Mole before the first of two tragedies strikes. The familial world of the twins, tenuously held together in the first place, begins to tear at the edges. Precociously intelligent and wildly imaginative, Rahel and Estha observe their elders and the society around them with unclouded eyes. The two of them are awake to the richness of everyday life. Early in the novel they travel to see the film "The Sound of Music." Estha looks up at one of the main characters:

"And there was Baron von Clapp-Trapp. Christopher Plummer. Arrogant. Hardhearted. With a mouth like a slit. And a steelshrill police whistle. A captain with seven children. Clean children, like a packet of peppermints. He pretended not to love them, but he did. He loved her (Julie Andrews), she loved him, they loved the children, the children loved them. They all loved each other. They were clean, white children, and their beds were soft with Ei. Der. Downs."

Roy has been universally lauded for the inventiveness of her language, for its breathtaking lyricism and muscular vividness. The novel itself has been described as a feast for the senses, and as a luxuriant evocation of a foreign culture. Roy's verbal creativity, coupled with the unusual subject matter of the novel, proves exhilarating. At minimum, readers would do well to pick up a copy of "The God of Small Things" for the simple reason that Arundhati Roy will not grace bookstore shelves with a new work of fiction anytime soon, if ever again.

is it art?

A LOOK AT THOSE WHO DARE TO STRETCH THE CREATIVE LIMITS

"From there to here and here to there, funny things are everywhere." The Grinch, the Cat in the Hat, the Lorax, the Martini Bird and many other creatures have migrated north to Vermont. For the next 10 days, the colorful, lyrical and animated characters of Dr. Seuss will be on exhibition at the Lineage Gallery on Church Street in Burlington. The author and artist whose literature fueled our childhood imaginations — and that of many generations to come — is inspiring the imaginations of the inhabitants of the Green Mountain State.

Honoring the 100th birthday of Dr. Seuss, Lineage is one of 24 galleries and museums across the country to be hosting the show, entitled "The Art of Dr. Seuss, A Traveling Retrospective and National Touring Exhibition." The exhibit, presented by The Chase Group and curator William W. Dreyer, provides a glimpse into the artist's life.

Along with the artwork from his famous children's books, the exhibit will showcase his entire career. The approximately 35 pieces run the gamut from his early advertising campaigns to his editorial cartoons during World War II to his sculptures and his recently unveiled private collection.

Theodore Seuss Geisel was born in Springfield, Mass., in 1904. He graduated from Dartmouth College in 1925, and then matriculated at Oxford University. His stay in England was short-lived though, as he quickly got bored with studying literature and returned to America. He began a career in advertising and survived the Great Depression as a commercial illustrator. At the same time, he gained recognition as a cartoonist and eventually expanded into the literary world.

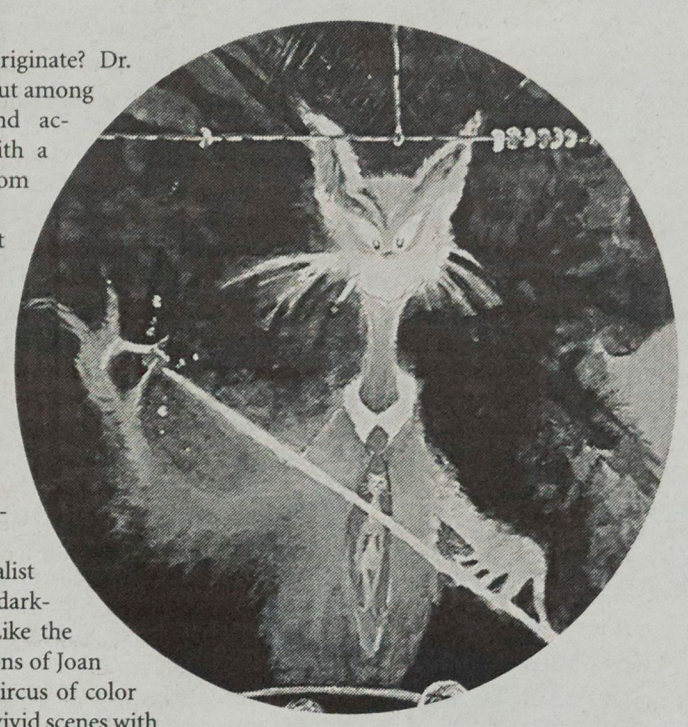
Geisel invented the penname Dr. Seuss for his 1937 picture book "*And to Think I Saw It On Mulberry Street*," but he had no degree to back the designation.

Where'd the doctor title originate? Dr. Seuss never became a physician but among his many accomplishments and accolades, Geisel was honored with a Doctorate in Humane Letters from his collegiate alma mater.

The works on display make it clear that Dr. Seuss was a doodler at heart. His bizarre creatures are reminiscent of the mindless sketches that fill the notebooks of daydreaming college students. The illustrations embody the whimsicality that has come to identify his oeuvre. Dr. Seuss' sense of color is completely idiosyncratic.

His art is a series of surrealist compositions minus the sense of darkness, enigma and irrationality. Like the dynamic and colorful compositions of Joan Miro, Dr. Seuss's pictures are a circus of color and delightful forms. He created vivid scenes with skewed, nonsensical perspectives and images. He contrasted bright colors against a much darker background, creating an illusion of the subject popping out of the painting.

The exhibition is comprised of serigraphs, lithographs, iris prints and sculptures. The 2001 serigraph "Every Girl Should Have a Unicorn" definitely commands the eye's attention. The way that line, form and color collude on the planar is eye-catching and pleasantly creative. The 36-by-24 inch image presents a cacophony of multicolored and lively lines. "The Martini Bird" is another entertaining image. The serigraph shows the frizzy-haired bird wearing the strangest underwear. The silliness of the lady bird brings an immediate smile to the viewer's face.



"I Dreamed I Was A Doorman at the Hotel Del Coronad" is another piece of eye-candy. The 2003 serigraph presents a fanciful landscape with New-York-meets-Dr.-Seuss architecture. The buildings are composed of curving, grids and networks of lines. The fleeting birds soar over the vibrantly blue water. The image is completely enchanting.

As the Doctor said himself, "I like nonsense, it wakes up the brain cells." The exhibition at Lineage warrants a visit. The pictures from his fanciful and surreal worlds are wrapped in moral tales that will certainly satisfy your creative needs or least hark back to the easy days of childhood.

— CHRIS GROSSO, ARTS EDITOR

The Middlebury Campus

IS CURRENTLY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS FOR THE FALL 2004 SEMESTER.

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NEWS EDITOR: RESPONSIBLE FOR CONCEIVING, ASSIGNING AND EDITING NEWS STORIES. ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR LAYOUT OF SECTION. MUST BE AWARE OF CAMPUS NEWS AND HAVE A MIND FOR CREATIVE JOURNALISM.

LOCAL NEWS EDITOR: RESPONSIBLE FOR CONCEIVING, ASSIGNING AND EDITING LOCAL NEWS STORIES. ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR LAYOUT OF SECTION. MUST BE INTERESTED IN TOWN AND STATE POLITICS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS AND HAVE A MIND FOR CREATIVE JOURNALISM.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REQUEST AN ELECTRONIC APPLICATION, PLEASE CONTACT DEVIN ZATORSKI (4814) OR CLAIRE BOURNE (6353).

Middkid paddles for gold

Alden Bird competes at 2004 Olympic trials

Courtesy

Cutting a turn through the slalom canoe couse at South Bend, Ind., Alden Bird '04 made a name for himself, placing 14th.

By Peter Yordan
Senior Staff Writer

Sometimes following your dreams doesn't mean aiming for comfortable success, sometimes it means sleeping in your car. Alden Bird '04 has never let a small thing like inadequate sleeping quarters keep him from heading out to the river every day in search of Olympic gold.

While most Middlebury students spent last weekend relaxing from the daily concerns of schoolwork, Bird, Middlebury's top C-1 racing canoer, found himself in South Bend, Ind. facing the ultimate test of four years of preparation. On the line was a ticket to Athens and the 2004 Olympic Games. It was only four years earlier that Bird had first strapped himself into a kayak, and there he was, vying for a spot in the most important slalom race in the world.

Despite his place as one of the nation's top slalom racers, Bird is very much a newcomer to the sport. His journey has its humble beginnings right here at Middlebury, in the school's very own pool. It was there, during the Thursday nights when Kayakers are allowed in the natatorium, that Bird, then a young first-year, first experimented with the C-1 canoe.

The C-1 is a quirky offshoot of the traditional kayak. Using a slightly modified boat, the paddler kneels instead of sitting and uses a single-bladed canoe paddle instead of the double-bladed kayak paddle. C-1 canoers are like southpaw pitchers of their sport — an eccentric, occasionally conceited subset who revel in their individuality. "Some people think that C-1ers are just impossibly macho. It's just more of a challenge. It's just cooler," said Bird.

An avid soccer player and skier, Bird didn't take up kayaking until his senior year in high school. He quickly became enthralled with the sport. "I sort of taught myself how to paddle. Kayaking allows me to test different things about myself. I like being able to explore — explore different regions and explore different parts of myself."

After making the switch to C-1 Bird didn't look back, totally dedicating himself to what became his sport. "It's one thing to be part of a team sport and practice when your coach tells you to. It's another to throw yourself into this obscure sport on your own." He would often go out to the river every day for weeks on end, rising with the sun to get in a few hours of paddling before class, and then heading back out before dinner.

To train for racing Bird fashioned himself a set of slalom gates that he strung up over a stretch on the Otter Creek. Each time through he would push himself to go a little faster, to hit the gates a little cleaner. "Slalom racing really offers a long-term discipline, whittling down your talent until you do it perfectly."

Northern racers suffer a distinct disadvantage compared to racers in more temperate climes who don't have to worry about ice and frostbite and can train year round. To keep himself in form, Bird headed out to the frigid local rivers anyway. "It gets difficult to train if it gets below 25 degrees because all your gear freezes really quickly." Wrapped up in drysuits, he paddled in below freezing temperatures, well aware that even a single rollover could put his health at serious risk. "I just decided it was a good idea to get out there every day. I desperately wanted to be the top guy in New England."

In his first career race on the Esopus River in upstate New York in 2001 Bird placed third. "I was very disappointed with the way I raced. I left before they could give me my medal."

Bird quickly rose through the

ranks to become one of the top 20 racers in the country. Still, with only three spots available at Olympic qualifying, he knew his chances were slim for an opportunity to compete in Greece. After the three-day event, he had to content himself with a 14th place and wait for 2008. "I wasn't very happy with the way I raced. I was not in good enough shape. If I train hard I can make the Olympics in four years. I really want to go pretty hard and see what happens."

Still, his experience was a memorable one. "One thing that stuck out for me was how much these people have to lose. It was really something to see these people who dedicate their lives to this to hang it all out there on just three days of racing, on just six races."

Bird will have much to occupy his time for the next four years. An expert "extreme" whitewater paddler as well as a racer, he is in the midst of writing the first comprehensive book about the kayaking rivers of Vermont and northern New England.

Though he is busy translating his love for the river into prose, Bird remains focused on his Olympic goal ahead. "Talent doesn't get you very far in a sport like this where it is so dependent on internal motivation. The people who really make it to the top are the people who really love the sport."

Women's lax dominates archrival Amherst

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

came in the second half was within six goals, an almost unattainable amount giving the stellar play by the defensive line and goaltender Sarah Grenert '04, who made 12 stops on the day.

Middlebury had several outstanding individual performances. Senior Nuala O'Donohoe continued her scorching season, netting a game high seven goals and two assists. O'Donohoe's performance, combined with her three goals and one assist in Middlebury's mid-week win over Union, 14-5, was good enough for her to win NESCAC Player of the Week honors. Sophomore Elizabeth Renehan also played tremendously, scoring four goals herself. First-year Kim Walker also had three goals during the game.

However, what cemented the win for Middlebury was its team play and chemistry, a strength that has been noted previously and will continue to be an important factor for the team.

"Certainly," said Bergofsky, "the reason we won this game is because we all played so well together." Asked if there was any added pressure from toppling the defending champions, or heavier expectations from beating their archrival, Bergofsky shook her head and replied, "Right now, we're focused on winning games and having fun. Fortunately, we're doing both."

Goggles make their way into NCAA rulebook

Albert Bitici

Teams competing in the NCAA Championship this year will be required to wear protective eyewear.

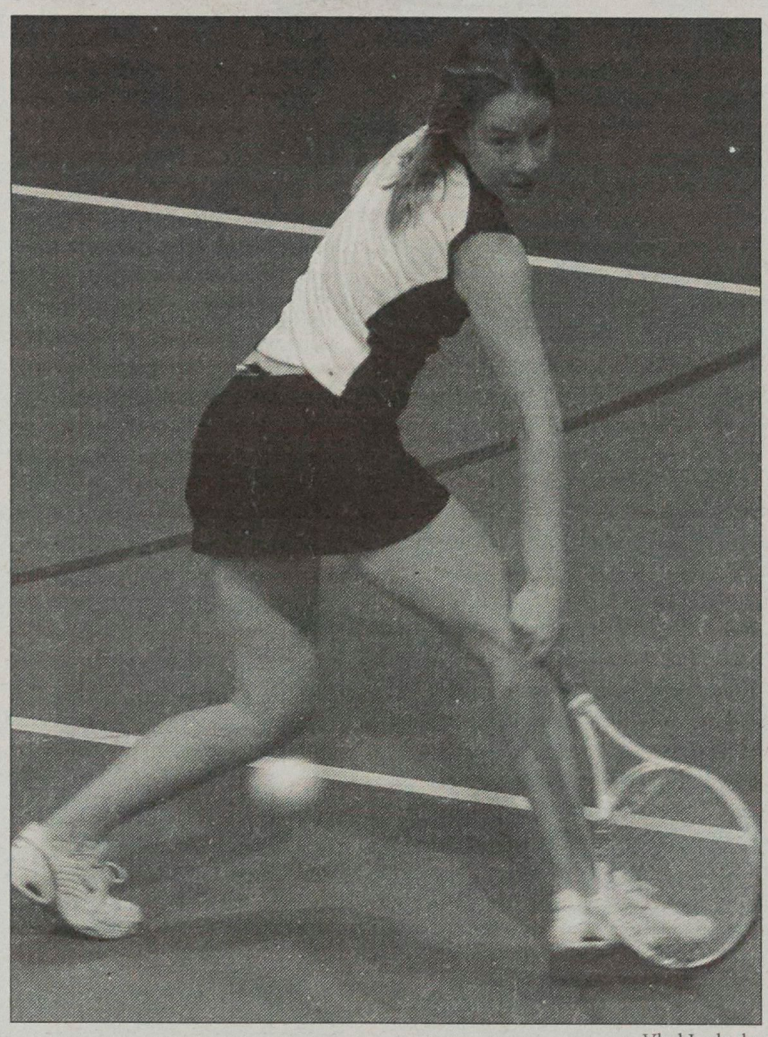
Those of you who have been attending the recent women's lacrosse games might have noticed an addition to their uniform — protective eyewear. Due to a recent change in NCAA legislation, teams competing in the NCAA Championship will be required to wear protective eyewear. Next year the goggles will be required for the entire season. For now it is just a recommendation. The new rule has come about in response to "some catastrophic eye injuries from the ball," said women's lacrosse Coach Missy Foote.

Wearing the goggles has forced the Panthers to make some adjustments. "The goggles restrict vision," said Foote, "so we have seen a decrease in overall skill level — catching, groundballs and shooting." However, the team will continue to wear them so that they are fully comfortable with the addition by the end of the season.While the goggles are aimed at protecting the athletes, Director of Athletics Russ Reilly expressed some reservations with the addition, saying, "It's a dangerous step. Once you require eyewear, the next logical step is to require a helmet. It changes the nature of the game." Reilly used the example of increased head and serious neck injuries that followed the addition of helmets in football. "There is a danger that the stick can be used aggressively."

While the Panthers are donning the goggles for the entirety of the season, some teams who don't think they will qualify for the NCAA Championships have decided to forgo the eyewear for this season.

— ANDREA GISSING, ASSOCIATE EDITOR

First-years key to success



Vlad Lodooaba

Emily Holick '07 reaches for a backhand during play at this weekend's Middlebury Invitational. The Panthers won two out of six flights.

Jena and I really played our game and stayed focused. We work really well together and the ball seemed to be bouncing in our favor.

— Amy Roche '07

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

our game and stayed focused. We work really well together and the ball seemed to be bouncing in our favor."

This pairing has a history of winning titles. In the fall, they paired up to win the New England Championships and have now set their sights set on more honorifics this spring. Roche said that, "Jena and I really take one match at a time but we are hoping to make it to the NCAA's and see what happens."

In the flight "A" doubles bracket, Middlebury netters Jackie Ross '07 and Sandy Spring '05 found themselves in the championship match after absolutely dominating the early round competition from Cortland and St. Lawrence. After swinging their way to 8-0 and 8-1 victories they ran into a roadblock against two accomplished netsters from Tufts. These Jumbos proved to be far too large for Ross and Spring while handing the Middlebury pair an 8-3 defeat.

Next Saturday, the women of Connecticut College will make their way up to Middlebury for a dual meet with the Panthers. The lady Camels participated in this weekend's invitational. As a preview to next week's match, Middlebury had little trouble disposing of their competitors from the south. The Panthers have compiled a 13-1 dual record this season and are favorites to up their mark to 14 victories.

Softball split primes Panthers' pride

By Daniel Inadomi
STAFF WRITER

For the second time in two years, the Middlebury softball team split a double-header with Williams. Both games were fierce battles as each team fought relentlessly for a precious NESCAC victory. Although the Panthers dropped the nightcap, they are in excellent position to at least equal the success of last season.

In the first game, Middlebury came out on the winning end of a classic pitchers' duel between Panther Megan McCarthy '05 and Eph Liz Gluck. Each pitcher refused to let up and silenced the opposition for ten grueling innings. Coach Diane Boettcher noted that McCarthy's fastball was on fire: "She is one of the fastest, if not the fastest pitcher in the league." Catcher Michaela George '04 also praised McCarthy saying that she "had a great curveball, her rise was working, and located the inside fastball well."

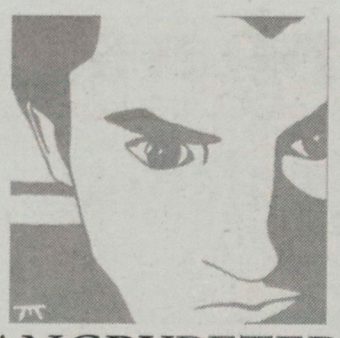
It was not until the top of the 11th that the game's first and only run was scored. Lauren Battaglia '06, two for four on the day, knocked in Kate Hurd '06 from second base, with a line drive to left center field.

The game didn't end without a threat from Williams. McCarthy retired the side in order in the bottom of the 11th to secure her third complete game shutout of the season. However, it was not a typical 1-2-3 inning. Both teams were playing with the international tiebreaker rule in effect, which allowed each team to start the inning with a runner on second. Williams led off the inning with a sacrifice bunt, moving the runner to third. McCarthy struck out the next batter, then surrendered a deep fly ball, which was caught by Christina Freyer '04. "The ball went up to center field and our hearts started pounding. Finally Christina Freyer made the catch, and boom they were out 1-2-3," said Boettcher.

Middlebury quickly jumped out to an early one run lead in the nightcap when Lauren Guza '05, who opened the game with an up the middle base hit, scored on a Katie Hurd single. However, Williams responded with two of their own in the bottom of the inning and never looked back as Middlebury was only able to get one hit off of Ephs' pitcher Clara Hard over the final six innings. Panther pitcher Lauren Bowe '04 surrendered four runs and eight hits over four plus innings before being relieved by Jen Williams '07.

"Splitting with Williams was huge. We split with them last year, and it put us in the NESCAC tournament. It was a good first step towards making the tournament again this year," said George on the Williams doubleheader.

The two-game split put the Panthers at 7-5 overall and 3-1 in NESCAC, proving to the conference that Middlebury is a team to be reckoned with. On Tuesday the Panthers will play a double header at Green Mountain, then will host Wesleyan for two games on Saturday as the Panthers make their home debut.



ANGRYPETER

BY PETER YORDAN

Can I just say that the new wire mesh goggles the women's lacrosse team wears are the goofiest things I've seen in a long time? While the top-ranked team's concern for safety is certainly laudable, even Chris Sabo rec-specs would be less awkward looking than the miniature catcher's masks they are wearing now. Still, so far the contraptions don't seem to hinder the team in its march toward what will hopefully be another national championship. On the heels of a pair of NCAA titles in hockey and a third national championship in women's cross country, perhaps this is the year that Middlebury finally dethrones Williams and grabs itself a Sears trophy as the top school in D-III athletics.

Yet such long-overdue athletic success would likely provide more fodder for those who say the school has strayed from its core academic focus to put an undue emphasis on athletic achievement. Fed by books like the recent "Reclaiming the Game," there is a growing perception that Middlebury has become divided between "serious" students and a "jock" subculture.

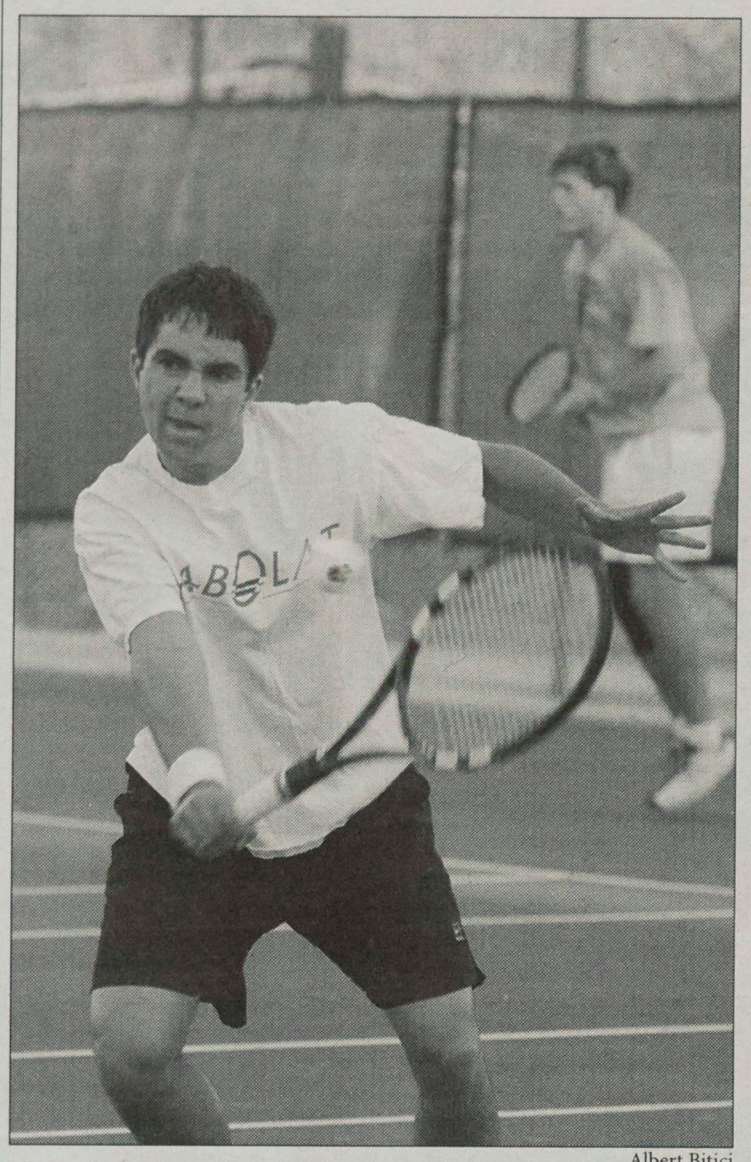
I count among my friends athletes who play a number of different sports. I'm not positive if there is a jock subculture at Middlebury. Certainly team sports are insular worlds that demand time and loyalty from members. But in a school like Middlebury, where some 40 percent of men and 25 percent of women are varsity athletes, thankfully most student-athletes seem to be just that — students and athletes.

Still, there is a persiting, unfortunate segregating tendency among athletes on campus. I have heard men's hockey players, for example, worry that their team's increasing isolation from the rest of the student body has cost it fans in recent years. However, nearly every senior member of the team lives off-campus. It's crucial for the health of the school that student-athletes become fully integrated members of the College. Student-athletes do themselves a disservice if their sport is the only contribution they feel they need to make to the school.

Obviously, most recruited athletes at the College have chosen Middlebury because it is one of the academic giants of the country, a place where they will receive a world-class education. But how many members of the "big" men's teams are economics majors together? Not to slight the econ department, but last time I checked, there are 44 different majors at Middlebury, and the student-athlete distribution among them is markedly different than that of non-varsity-athlete students.

It's up to student-athletes to bridge whatever gap might exist between themselves and non-athletes. They have much to contribute — people like Mike Kennedy '04, who took time out from hockey to become one of the top writers on my newspaper staff — but no one can make them contribute.

Men's tennis team drops Jumbos



Albert Bitici

After handly dispatching Tufts 7-0, the tennis team prepared intensely for Wednesday's matchup against second-ranked Williams.

By Sean Breen
Staff Writer

In a decisive victory this past Friday over Tufts University, the Middlebury men's tennis team improved to 9-3 this spring. Tufts has traditionally had a solid tennis program, currently ranked 24th in the country by collegetennisonline.com, but has been ranked as high as 12th in 2002. Still, the Jumbos were no match for the Panthers, who won all but one singles match in straight sets, and held Tufts to under four games in every doubles match.

Playing in the one spot, Brian Waldron '06 dominated the first set winning 6-2, but the intimidation of his powerful serve wavered in the second set, and he was forced to win a tough tie breaker, 7-6, still winning in straight sets. Nathen Edmunds '06 dropped a rare set to Jon Bram, 1-6, before regaining his footing. The lost set must have caught Edmunds' eye because he came back strong to win the set 1-6, 6-3, 6-3. Justin Ingoglia '05 continued his strong play in the third position on the ladder, pulling out a tough victory against Jon Rubenstein, 7-5, 6-4.

First-years rolled as rookies George Mayer and Alex Scott easily defeated Corey Keller and Sean McCooey, dropping only five games in total between the two of them. Captain Alex Meditz '05 was forced to retire early after winning a tough tiebreaker in the first set, 7-6.

In doubles, Mayer and Ingoglia played in the one spot and effortlessly defeated the duo of Perahya and Bram, 8-3. In similar fashion, Ari Beilin '06 and Scott defeated Rubenstein and McCooey 8-3.

The team of Edmunds and Waldron has been struggling as of late and played in the three spot for this match. Nevertheless, they responded positively by knocking off the team of Keller and Loh easily, 8-4.

Middlebury got the rest of the weekend off to rest up for Wednesday's match against arch-rival Williams. The match, which was Williams' home opener, is probably the biggest regular season match of the spring.

Williams is currently ranked number-2 in the country by and is the biggest threat to Middlebury in the NESCAC division. The Ephs have started off the spring 4-4, with losses coming to fifth-ranked UC San Diego, 11th-ranked University of Redlands, number-10 Claremont-Mudd-Scipps Colleges, and to Division-I Dartmouth.

Middlebury also lost a tough one last week to Dartmouth. But during the 6-1 defeat, Edmunds demonstrated that his game is ready for the prime time, coming back after dropping the first set to defeat Neal Bobba 2-6, 6-3, 6-4 in the number two spot. Williams' 5-2 win over Tufts demonstrates the strength of Middlebury's 7-0 shutout.

Middlebury will be forced to play some of its best tennis to defeat the Ephs. The talent is prevalent on both sides, and it will come down to who wants it the most.

Crew teams excel in early season

By Emily Berlanstein
Staff Writer

Last weekend the Middlebury crew team traveled to Massachusetts Maritime Academy on Cape Cod to compete against Mass. Maritime, Bowdoin College, UVM and Assumption College. It was a successful outing for all of the squads, and the race set a positive tone for the season, as both novice and varsity rose to the occasion and proved strong competitors in their races.

Coach Alex Machi was beyond pleased with the results, "This weekend's racing went remarkably well, especially given some facts which might have led someone to assume we'd have a difficult time of it in our first outing of the season," he said. "Our spring break is a week later than our competitors so they all have had not only more time on the water than us but they raced last week, whereas this was our first taste of competition this year. We had only a few days of practice on Otter Creek last week due to the still frozen condition of Lake Dunmore, while all other teams have been rowing each day on their own body of water."

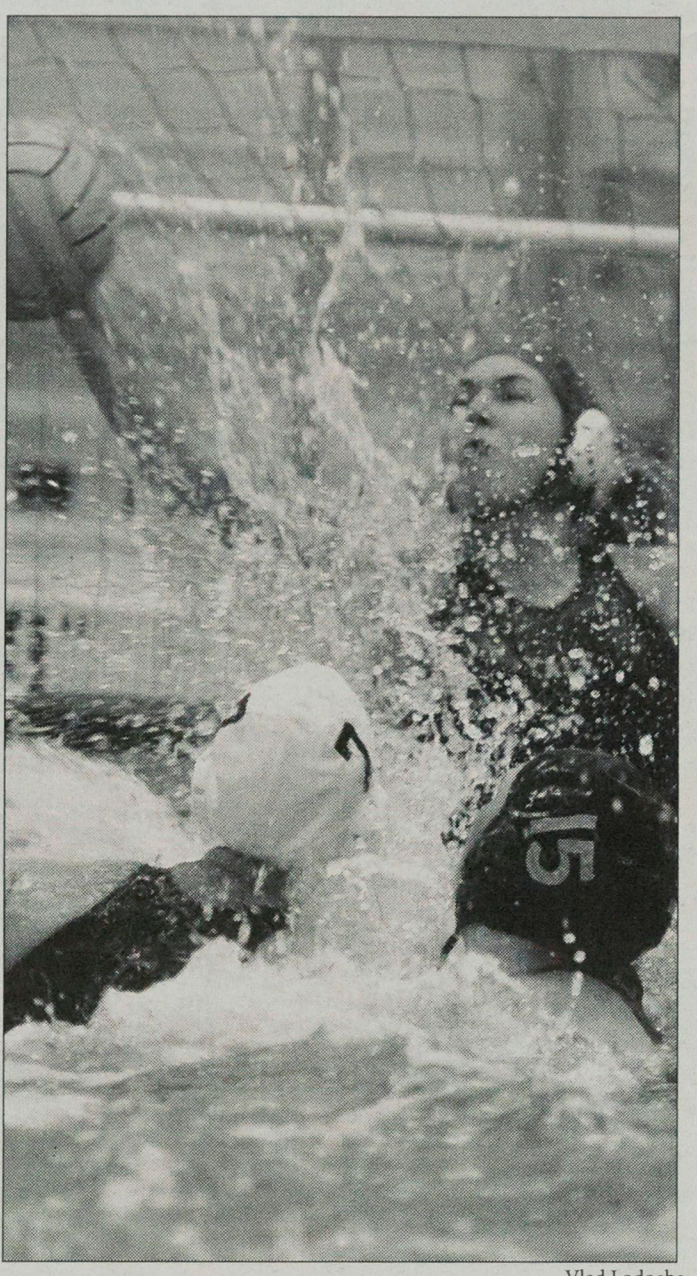
Particularly successful were the winning boats of the women's second varsity four (with a time of 8:22), comprised of lightweight rowers Carolyn Gersh '04, Emily Berg '05, Meredith Coburn '07, tri-captain Becky Latka '04 and coxswain Jillian Everly '04 and the novice women's four (8:44), both of which Machi deemed "standout performances…they walked away from the competition."

Additional winners included the men's varsity eight of tri-captain Steve Gangemi '04, Ryan Gallagher, Ricky Klein '07, tri-captain Luke Mueller '04, Doug Penrose '06, Matt Daylor '06, tri-captain Jeff Koppernolle '04 and G.P. LeBourdais '04, the men's second varsity four (7:52) of Gallagher, Penrose, Koppernolle and LeBourdais; and the women's novice eight.

Other notable performances included the men's novice eight, who finished second to Mass. Maritime by only two seconds, despite having seven new rowers, one of which was unable to attend the Miami training trip. Also rowing exceptionally was the women's varsity four of Emily Loesche '05, Sara Hayes '05, tri-captain Betsy Sullivan '04.5 and tri-captain Taylor Bolz '04, which finished third to perennial powerhouses Bowdoin and UVM. Emily Loesche reflected, "It was a really great way to start the season. Given the little water time we've had, I think all of the boats performed exceptionally well and exceeded expectations. We needed to prove to ourselves that, despite the elements that are out of our control, we are a strong, focused, and talented team, and we did just that. I think we'll carry this confidence into next week's race, and, hopefully, it will motivate us to perform even better than we did at Mass. Maritime."

Next weekend, the crew team will face Bowdoin and Amherst in Amherst, Mass. With a little luck and Machi's tenacious ice-breaking skills, the crews will gain several more days of experience on the water before heading to Amherst. But, regardless of the amount of on-water preparation they receive, the squads will remain confident and draw on last weekend's success to meet their goals.

SWIMMING, SPLASHING, SINKING

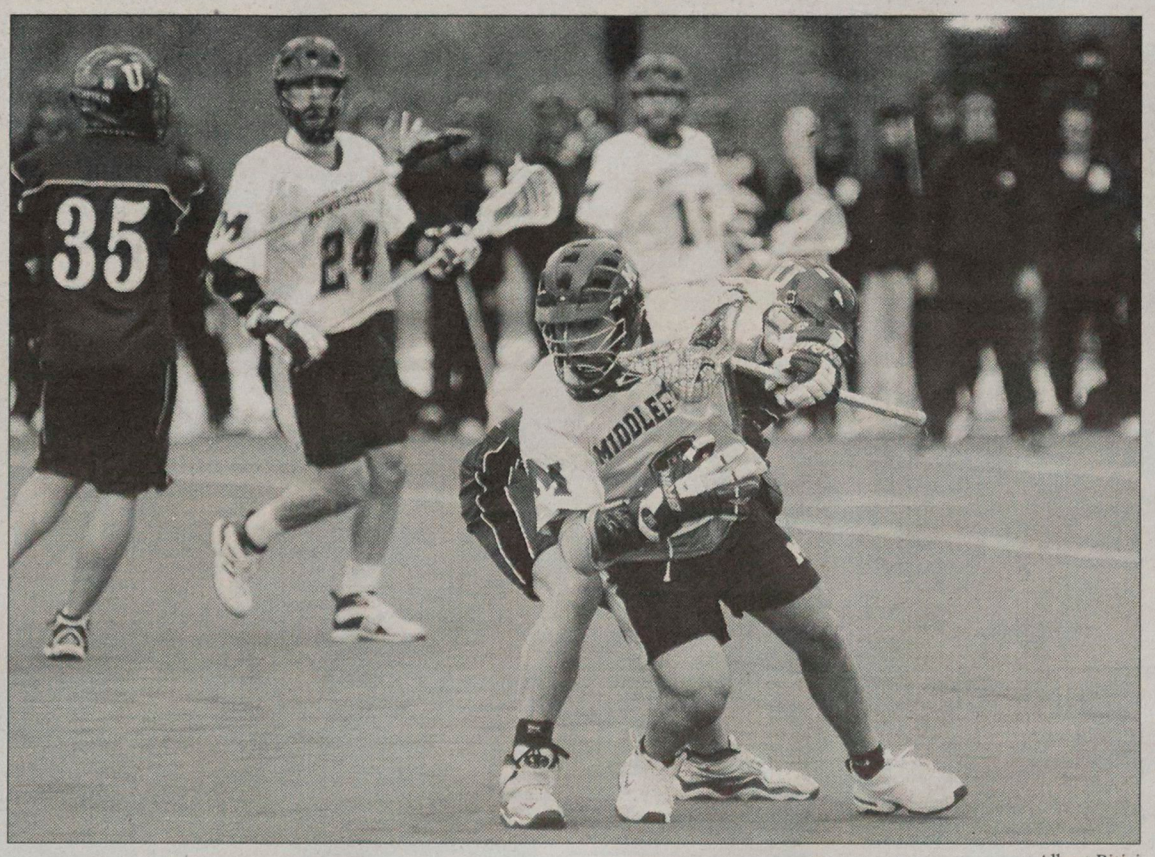


Vlad Lodoaba

In their final test before the New England Championships, the women's water polo team hosted their only home games of the year. Led by Robin Cornuelle '06 and Alexis Hollinger '05, the Panthers drowned rivals Williams and Wesleyan, but were subsequently sunk by Ivy League powerhouses Dartmouth and Yale.

Lax maintains momentum

7-0 men's team keeps perfect record intact



Albert Bitici

Sophomore attackman Jon Sisto thwarts off a Union defender on Monday. He netted three goals in the 21-2 win.

By David Freedman
Sports Editor

Middlebury looked sharp for two quarters of lacrosse on Saturday. That was all the time the men's team needed to dispatch Wesleyan University 11-8 despite giving the Cardinals extra possessions with uncharacteristic penalties that generated nine man-up opportunities for the opposition.

"We played undisciplined at times," sophomore Scott Atkinson said. "We used our game on Monday against Union College as a gut-check after our showing against Wesleyan."

The Panthers did more than reassert their productivity on offense and aggressiveness on defense, they dominated Union 21-2, scoring almost at will throughout much of the game. Middlebury's sharpest offensive trio up top — Charley Howe '04, Mike Saraceni '04 and Mark Foster '05 — still scored eight of the 11 goals against Wesleyan and racked up 11 points in the outing against Union despite making some rare mistakes in front of the cage.

"During the Wesleyan game we didn't play up to our own standards," Saraceni said. "We did a poor job of controlling the tempo of the game. A lot of teams try to slow the game down against us and Wesleyan was taking the air out of the ball with their possessions and when our offense got the ball, we were often taking quick shots, instead of banging it around like we should have."

While playing only its sixth and seventh games of the year Middlebury has made significant strides as a team, but a strong supporting cast of individual athletes has slowly emerged to assist the starters in keeping the Panthers at a perfect 7-0 record.

Brian Phinney '05, a long pole defender, joined the squad only a week after his National Championship run with the hockey team and even netted a goal in transition against Wesleyan to go along with his superb defense on the weekend. Jon Sisto '06 shook the rust off from a preseason injury to net three goals in six minutes against Union. First-year Pete Mellen has stepped up to help carry Andrew Giordano's '04 load at the X, winning multiple face-offs in both games. Nick Bastis '07 netted three goals against Union, making him the team's fifth leading scorer behind Saraceni, Howe, Foster and Giordano.

Head Coach Erin Quinn is pleased with the team's progress thus far but is aware that the Panthers will need to continue to execute and play heads-up lacrosse to continue their success. "I think we came out sharp and the effort was there," Quinn remarked about the games this week, "but the execution over four quarters was not there. Wesleyan played well, but I thought there were several times during the game where we had opportunities to pull away and we didn't."

Middlebury will have to key in on those opportunities in the upcoming week when they take on NESCAC rivals Amherst College on the turf at 2 p.m. on April 10 and Tufts University at 4 p.m. on April 14.

Track teams trump opposition

Continued from page 28

Porter '04 in the 100m, 800m, 100m hurdles and 400m hurdles respectively. In the longer distances, Margery Glover '04 claimed a win in the 1500m with a time of 5:01.09, while Andrea Giddings '07 broke the tape first in the 3000m in 10:47.71.

Out in the field, the story was no different with the women claiming wins in five different events. Meira Lifson '07 pole vaulted higher than any other, Jessica Kosciewicz '04 leaped further than her competitors in the long jump, Laura Keeler '07 hopped, skipped and jumped to success in the triple jump, Renee Courchesne '06 launched her discus the furthest while Jennifer March '04 was busy propelling her hammer to the top of the leaderboard. It was a dominant performance by the Middlebury women all in all, and one that underlined the dominance that they hold over nearby competition.

On the men's side, the usual suspects were at it again. Kevin Bright '06, 400m hurdler extroadinaire, looked like he was running a different race to the rest of the athletes as he crossed the line in a time of 54.35, almost a full three seconds ahead of his nearest opponent. Bright completed a double of his own with a win in the long jump, leaping 21'10" on the day. Remaining modest though, Bright commented, "I was happy with my jump but my time in the 400m hurdles was a little slow." Will McDonough '07 won the 3000m in the other track victory for the men's team.

In the field, first-year Bobby Marcoux sent his discus the furthest (144'8") while Craig Parker '04 was victorious in the hammer and Khristoph Becker '06 sent his javelin further than anyone else in the field. In discussing his performance in the meet, Becker noted, "I was happy with my throw in the javelin, and it qualifies me for Nationals, but I'm in training for the decathlon and would really like to qualify for that." When the dust settled, Middlebury had claimed victory in 20 of the day's events, bringing the curtain down on an extremely successful day of action.

While sterner tests lie in wait for the Panthers, the old adage that success breeds success is something that the Middlebury track and field team hopes will come to fruition. A trip to the Williams relays awaits the Panthers next, before another home meet back in Middlebury. Following a second day on the Dragone Track and Field Complex, things get serious with the NESCACs, Division III New England's, Open New England's, ECACs and finally, the NCAA Championships all the way through to the end of May.

According to Bright, "All the teams performed well this week, and Coach Beatty seems pretty excited about it. He thinks we might be able to do some real damage in the NESCACs."

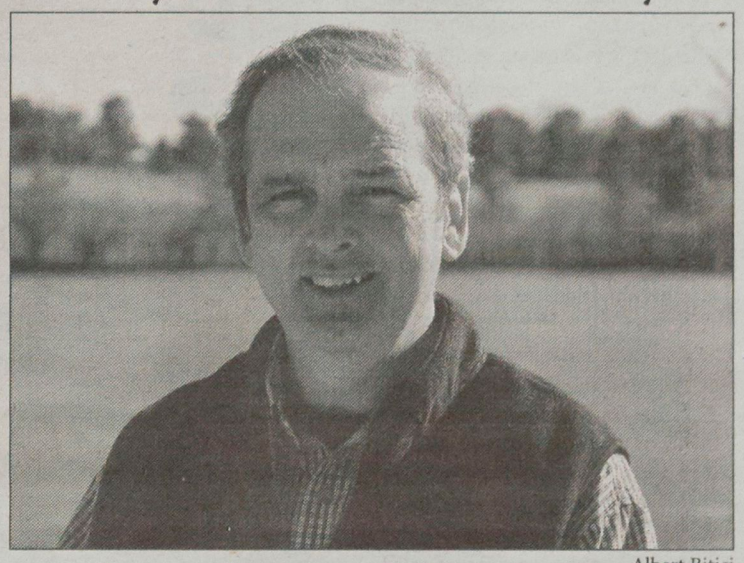
SPORTSBRIEFS

BY DAVID FREEDMAN, SPORTS EDITOR

Mandigo earns highest honor

With a record of 278-81-10 Bill Mandigo has recorded the most wins as coach in the history of Division III women's hockey and, after his success this season at the helm of the Panthers, was voted the National Coach of the Year by his peers on April 1. The coach steered an athletic group to a 24-4 record, winning the NCAA title in progress, after losing a majority of the previous year's scoring power to graduation. This is the second time in four seasons that Mandigo has won the accolade, and the third time the heralded coach has been nationally honored — he was named the ECAC Women's Hockey Alliance Coach of the Year in 1996. In the last two seasons Mandigo picked up Middlebury's first NESCAC Championship and first NCAA title to go along with five ECAC championships and two national titles in his 16-year career.

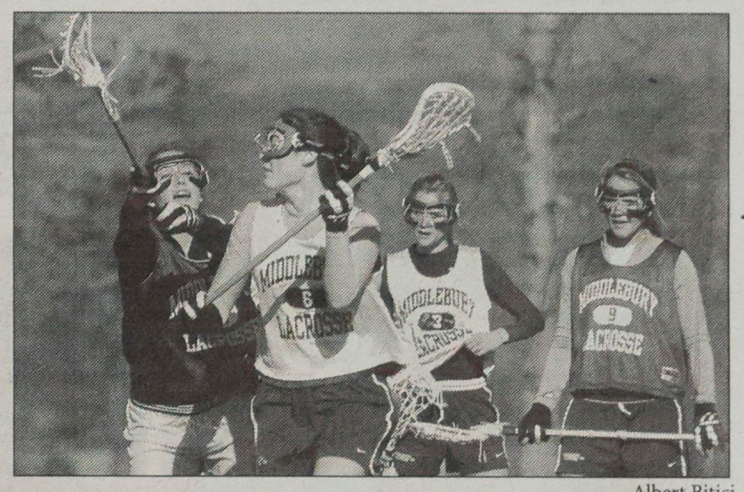
Beaney named coach of the year



Albert Bitici

Bill Beaney raised the standard of excellence in Division III ice hockey, guiding his men's squad to its sixth national title since 1995. In honor of his achievements behind the Panther bench Beaney received the 2004 Edward Jeremiah Award given annually to recognize the National Coach of the Year in Division III men's hockey, for a record-tying third time in his career. "I'm only the figurehead of a great group of people, great coaches, players and staff, that work towards a common goal," Beaney said modestly. "I am simply the named recipient for so many people who are responsible for making this award possible. I'm fortunate enough to be in a great place at a great time." Middlebury's latest national title came right on the heels of Beaney's year-long sabbatical, in which, after a somewhat rocky start, the fabled head coach guided the Panthers to an 18-1 record over the last 19 games. This year's team functioned without three of the top scorers from the 2002-2003 campaign, but found its bearings en route to a dramatic NCAA title run.

O' Donohoe nets NESCAC award



Albert Bitici

Middlebury women's lacrosse tri-captain Nuala O'Donohoe '04 was named NESCAC player of the week for her 12 points in two strong victories for the Panthers against Union College and second-ranked Amherst College. The senior netted seven goals to lead Middlebury over the Lord Jeffs and assisted on two more, dominating the play of the game throughout. Her performance against Amherst made her the team's leading scorer with 23 goals and six assists so far on the year. Despite Middlebury's late start on the season, her goal-scoring output puts her in the top 20 nationally. O'Donohoe has raked in honors over her career at Middlebury being named a first-team All-American in 2002, second in 2003 and 2001, NESCAC rookie of the year in 2001, and first-team all NESCAC in both of her last two seasons.

McCarthy records career 1st

For the first time in her softball career Megan McCarthy '05 was named NESCAC player of the week for her outstanding pitching performance against Williams, shutting the Ephs out for 11 straight innings to lead Middlebury to a 1-0 road win. She only gave up four hits on the day and struck out five batters in her complete game outing. The accolade is the first for the junior out of Winter Springs, Fla., since her placement on the second-team of the 2003 All-Conference squads in NESCAC. McCarthy's record is currently 5-2, with a stingy 0.88 ERA.

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GAMES TO WATCH

MEN'S LACROSSE
VS. AMHERST
APR. 10 | 2 PM | TURF

SOFTBALL
VS. WESLEYAN
APR. 10 | 11 AM | S. FIELD

campus sports

THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2004

Women's tennis takes 2 of 6 flights

By Ryan Reese
Assistant Sports Editor

Five courts of smash mouth, in-your-face tennis and a strong Middlebury showing were some of the highlights of this past weekend's Middlebury Invitational Tournament. The women's tennis team played host to seven other teams while looking sharp on its home turf. With six brackets, each of doubles or singles play, the Panthers took home two championship honors. The racket-wielding women from Tufts University laid claim to the four remaining titles.

The most exciting performance of the weekend highlighted the stellar play of a first-year from the Lone Star State. Claire Smyser of Houston made her way through tough opposition while on her way to the flight "B" singles championship. In the title match she made short work of the number three seed from Tufts in a 6-3, 3-0 match that was halted due to her opponent's injury. Smyser was unstoppable throughout the tourney as she outscored her respective opponents from Montclair, Connecticut and Tufts, winning 45 of 58 total games played. Smyser also teamed up with senior Kristin Baker while competing in the flight "C" doubles bracket. They fought their way to the championship match, falling in a heartbreaking 9-8 (7) marathon to their opponents from Tufts.

The other Panther championship title went to the duo of Amy Roche '07 and Jena Siegel '04. After easily disposing of their UVM and Cortland opponents in the first and semifinal rounds by scores of 8-2 and 8-2 respectively, Roche and Siegel squared off against more Tufts opposition. Although this was by far the biggest challenge the bracket had to offer, the Panthers found little trouble on their way to a convincing 8-4 title victory. Roche commented, "Jena and I really played

See First-Years, page 25

File Photo/Albert Bitici

After falling in last year's NCAA championship game, Michele Bergovsky '06 (above) and the top-ranked Panthers remain undefeated in 2004.

Women's lacrosse exacts revenge

By Jack Donaldson
Staff Writer

"Keep your friends close, and your enemies closer." It is an ancient axiom that illustrates a long-standing fact: enemies, nemeses and rivals teach us about ourselves in ways our close associates cannot. History is marked by its great rivalries — Achilles and Hector, Rome and Sparta, Democracy and Communism, 2Pac and the Notorious B.I.G., not to mention a burgeoning rivalry between two D-III powerhouses: the Middlebury and Amherst women's lacrosse teams.

As this past weekend proved, in a brisk game played at U-Mass.-Amherst, these two teams went at each other hard. In the first meeting of what should be several in 2004, the Panthers pulled out a 17-10 victory.

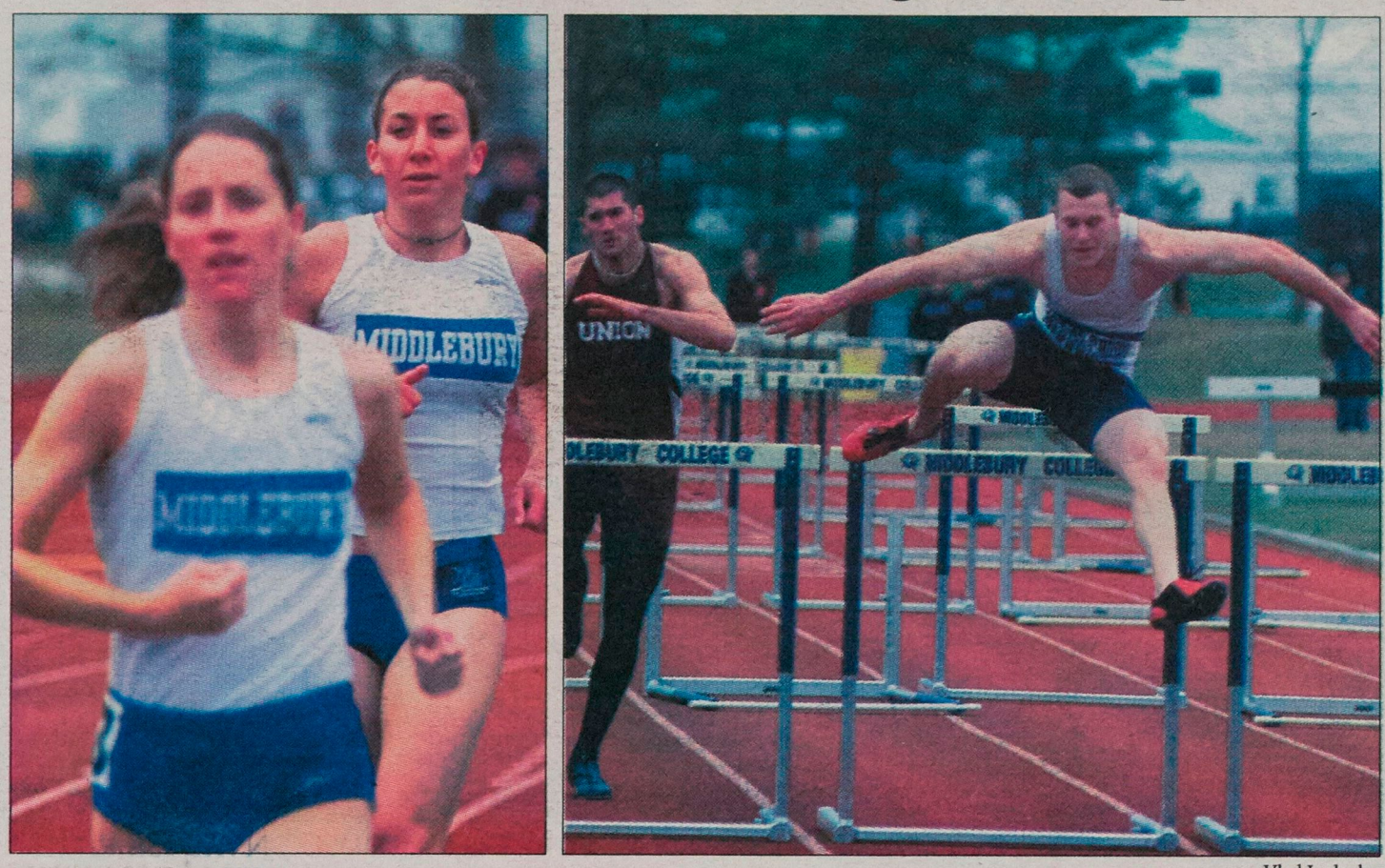
"It's definitely true that Amherst is our big rival," noted sophomore Michelle Bergofsky, who continued her breakout season by contributing a goal and an assist against the Jeffs. "They always play hard, and the competition is great."

Indeed, the two teams have separated themselves from the rest of the NESCAC pack in recent years. They have a stake in 10 regular and postseason NESCAC records, and have played for the title the past three years. Amherst won the D-III crown last year, and the Panthers and Jeffs entered this year ranked #1 and #2 in the nation, respectively.

Needless to say, both sides, which were undefeated before their meeting, were extremely excited for the weekend battle. The contest was a high scoring affair from start to finish, with Amherst netting the first goal of the game on the opening draw. It was a close first half, with the Panthers ahead 8-5 at the break. Holding to its playing performance all season long, however, Middlebury showed its superior conditioning and athleticism in the second half, scoring five unanswered goals and sprinting out to a 13-5 lead. From then on the defense took over and shut down the Amherst attack. The closest Amherst

See Women's Lax, page 25

Panthers explode during triumphant home meet



Vlad Lodoaba

Margary Glover '04 leads Claire Schultz '07 home in the 1,500m, while Matt Engler '06 makes his way to third place in the 110m hurdles.

By Tom McCann
Sports Editor

This past weekend the Middlebury track and field team traded the heat of a Californian Spring Break for the comfort of its first home meet of the season. Plattsburgh, Union, Colby Sawyer and Southern Vermont rolled into town and in truth, none of them could hold a candle to the Panther athletes who ran out convincing winners in the team totals.

The Middlebury athletes had already showed this season that it can stand toe-to-toe with the very best competition, but the number of events that the Panthers dominated was there for everyone to see. On both the men's and women's side, track and field, Middlebury ran the rule.

The Dragone Track and Field Complex provided a happy hunting ground for a number of Middlebury athletes who took the top spot in their respective events. Christine Bolger '07 came home first in the 200m in a time of 27.54, then completed a double in the 400m, winning in a time of 1:00.11. She was understandably happy with her performance on the day, commenting, "I was pretty excited with my run in the 400m — I set a new personal record." There were wins for Kirsten Lundgren '06.5, Beth Butler '07, Erin Oliver '07 and Maryanne

See Track, page 27